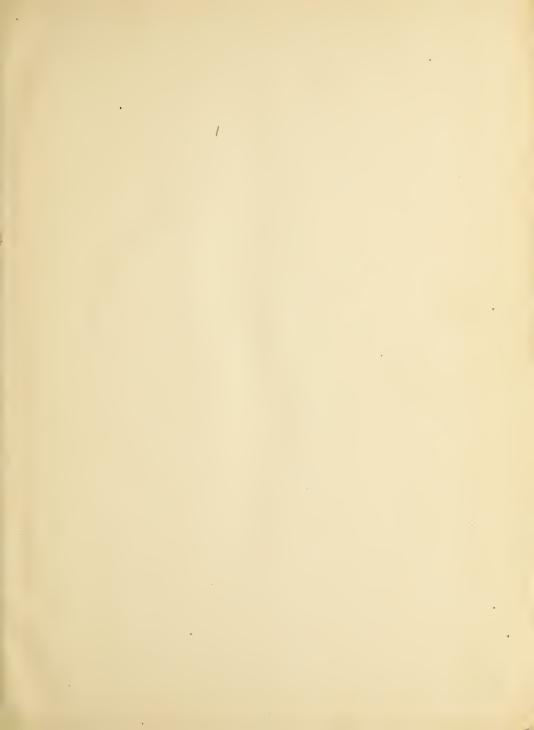




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Wotterbern

# The

# .Otterbeig Birth Say Book.

#### CONTAINING

Selections from the writings of a large number of men and women active and useful in Christian Work.

BY REV. MARION R. DRURY, A. M.

DAYTON, OHIO: W. J. SHUEY, Publisher. 1887.



### PREFACE.

The anniversaries of our birth are among the happy days of life. They furnish occasions for family reunions, social gatherings, expressions of affection and esteem, and the bestowment of gifts, together with the narration of pleasing reminiscences. Hence it is that a book in which to chronicle the birthdays of friends soon acquires an interest and value which attach to but few other books. In the course of years such a book becomes a treasure whose worth is above computation.

Then, too, the modern birthday book, unlike those of former times, has become the receptacle of the choicest utterances of noble thinkers and actors. This gives to such a volume intrinsic and practical worth.

The design of the compiler of this book has been to put upon every page some word of wisdom, some inspiring sentiment, or some suggestive thought which will contribute worthy incentives to an earnest and useful life. Such words, sentiments, and thoughts abound in the following pages, and it is to be hoped that all who come to possess the book may find many promptings to a strong and hearty purpose to walk in the ways of virtue and true nobility.

The autographs of a few persons are given under the dates of their birth, thus serving to show how the names of friends may be recorded in the blank spaces of the book. The names of nearly two hundred others, who are widely known in consequence of their Christian character and usefulness, are printed under the dates of their birth. The book is intended as an autograph album as well as a book for birthday records, and will make a most suitable holiday or birthday present. There is something in it for everybody, old and young, something helpful and good for every day in the year.



# INTRODUCTION.

The name of a great and good man deserves immortality. Such a man was Bishop Philip William Otterbein—talented, scholarly, and abundant in labors. Though dead for more than three-score and ten years, he still speaks, and to-day lives in the affections of grateful thousands, who tenderly cherish the memory of his long and fruitful life.

In 1812 Bishop Francis Asbury, an intimate friend and co-laborer, paid this high tribute to Mr. Otterbein's standing and character: "He is one of the best scholars and greatest divines in America."

When Bishop Asbury received the sad news of the death of his friend and trusted counselor, he exclaimed, "Is Father Otterbein dead? Great and good man of God! An honor to his church and his country. One of the greatest scholars and divines that ever came to America, or born in it."

A few months later Bishop Asbury visited Baltimore, and by special request preached a sermon of great tenderness in memory of "the holy, the great Otterbein." Speaking of this occasion in his journal, Mr. Asbury says: "Forty years have I known the retiring modesty of this man of God, towering majestic above his fellows in learning, wisdom, and grace, yet seeking to be known only to God and the people of God."

Dr. Daniel Zacharias, a noted and influential minister in the Reformed Church, wrote in 1847 the following: "Mr. Otterbein was a ripe scholar, and a devoted and pious man, who lived in God and God in him. By his agency a new life was brought into the church, at first as a mustard-seed, but later as a tree whose branches afforded a grateful resting-place to many. He was respected and revered even by those who disapproved of his measures, and throughout life his character stood unsullied by a single stain."

Rev. Dr. J. D. Kurtz of the Lutheran Church, Otterbein's friend, and for twenty-seven years his co-laborer in Baltimore, preached a discourse in German at his funeral, from Matt. xx: 8—"Call the laborers and give

#### INTRODUCTION.

them their hire." It was a fitting text for one that had spent sixty-five years in the ministry.

Dr. Benjamin Kurtz, years afterward, wrote: "Otterbein, that true and living witness, whose memory I hold dear and cherish in my heart of hearts, was still laboring in faith and patience when I commenced preaching the gospel; but a short time before my arrival in Baltimore the Master had called him home. The pious part of the community still delighted in calling to mind his unctious sermons, his holy walk and conversation, and his wonderful success in winning sinners from the error of their ways.

\* \* He was a scholar as well as a saint."

Bishop J. Weaver says, "The memory of such a life as Otterbein lived and the work he performed should never be lost."

It is to the memory of this eminent, pious, and useful man that this book is gratefully dedicated.

THE COMPILER

## JADUARY.

#### A NEW-YEAR VISION.

Midway between the evening and the morning star There swung, heaven-poised, a white-winged scroll of time, Shedding resplendent gleams of promise from afar Of deeds great grown through purposes sublime.

Above, an angel's face, emerged from heavenly light, Smiled, as he held the scroll and floated down, Alluring, while he broke the hidden bolts of night, Each child of earth to win celestial crown.

Beneath, dark-shaded, hidden from the light above, Another lurked so vile 't were base to name, With eyes fast set in hellish greed, and ceaseless strove All good and impulse holy to defame.

Of countless throng came each upon the scroll to trace One line of life, of good or evil done; Nor pure and true, nor false and vile, could aught efface -The record made was an eternal one.

Immense diversity of lives, concentering all, And blending multitudes of right or wrong; Each heeding now the angel's or the demon's call, Allying thus with good or godless throng.

One poor, disconsolate, and wandering wearied child Bowed lowly at the scroll ere he begun; And tears and prayers outpoured, till bright the angel smiled, And took the trembling hand and traced "well done." C. M. Hott.

#### THE NEW YEAR.

Good-by, Old Year. Welcome New Year. We say good-by because we must, and because we love to do so. We rush on. The tide of events and the current of our lives and sympathies are onward forever. The new year stands at the door. We gather up our feet and press from the old to the new. We love to do so because our bosoms swell with life. We must do so because time turns its cycles and we can not resist its changes. At such a time as this the heart will be chastened by the remembrance of many vows unperformed and many resolves still unaccomplished and many good hopes unrealized. It will be of no service to try to place the blame here and there. Enough of the fault lies with self; and as for others, they have enough to bear without our imposing more upon them. God pities the past, and we do well to escape it for a better future.

J. W. Hott.

#### OTTERBEIN.

Phillip William Otterbein was distinguished by those qualities that, wherever found, the consent of mankind has denominated great. Providential direction is plainly manifest in the career of Otterbein. His personal experience, his position toward the revival-movement among the Germans in America, and his part in organizing this movement into a church, furnish the leading points in his career. While the character, talents, scholarship, and successful labors of Otterbein cause us to honor his name, we may also rejoice in that the surviving results of his life-work have the authority of providential sanctions. One of the most significant and assuring utterances of Otterbein was, "The Lord has been pleased graciously to satisfy me fully that the work will abide."

A. W. Drury.

JANUARY I.

# Charles Thomas Steam

JANUARY 2.

#### BISHOP OTTERBEIN.

He is now more favorably known than he was at the day of his death. It is known that Otterbein left but few written documents behind him to speak of the vigor of his intellect, or the purity of his life. It is a fact, however, that, although unconscious to himself, he wrote his name upon the hearts of unborn generations. It is not the books that Luther, Calvin, or Wesley wrote that cause their names to be so dear to Christians of the present generation. It is true their writings extended their usefulness, both before and after death, but their fame rests upon something more permanent than books. They, like Otterbein, possessed the nameless power, while living, to make an impress, not only upon their countrymen, but upon humanity itself.

L. Davis.

#### ADVICE TO YOUNG MEN.

I beg you to settle your course on high moral principles. In choosing what you shall do ask one question, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" Deal honestly with your souls and your Savior. As you love yourselves and care for heaven, let your decision of this great question be honestly settled now. Do not move without God. Shun no responsibilities, no sacrifice, if he impose them. Dream of no success, no honor, no enjoyments, without his sanction. Run lawfully if you would be crowned. Take with you into life the great principles of the gospel. Abide by them. They are strong, and will uphold the weakest; they are enduring, and will last to the end. Lean upon them; build upon them; trust them. Trust them with all the heart and with all the soul, and then be sure "the gates of hell" can not prevail against you.

J. J. Glossbrenner.

#### JANUARY 3.

Bishop Henry Kumler, sen., 1775. Rev. William Davis, 1812.

Frank Grow. 1874

JANUARY 4.

#### THE WONDROUS GIFT.

Oh! how vast the difference between the overwhelming gift of grace in Christ, to us, and our gift of a portion of our money for the purpose of the spread of the light and truth of God far and wide, even to Africa's downtrodden and degraded millions, to those on the frontier or anywhere else. The field is the world, the whole world.

J. Markwood, 1855.

#### THE CHURCH AT PRAYER.

There is scarcely a more solemn and beautiful sight than an assembly of Christians, all bowed before the mercy seat in earnest, fervent prayer; all confessing their guilt, their helplessness, and entire dependence upon the divine Savior for salvation. It is a sight that moves heaven and earth. Angels look on with delight, and God himself smiles in approbation, lifting the cloud from the burdened soul, and making the place luminous as with the light of heaven. Sinners, too, and those who are skeptical on the subject of revealed religion, are often struck dumb in the presence of such a scene.

D. Edwards, 1862.

JANUARY 5.

Rev. Henry Kephart, 1802.

JANUARY 6.

Rev. M. P. Doyle, 1838.

#### TO YOUNG CHRISTIANS.

Beware how you enter the dominions of your adversary. Confess your Lord and Master at all times and on every occasion when and where expedient and necessary. To do so, let all the world know that you are on the Lord's side and determined to be a humble follower of the Lord Jesus; but never unnecessarily enter into any disputes, on religious subjects, with the ungodly, or such persons as do not enjoy the life and power of religion. You may be enticed to the combat to gratify your vanity in exposing to view the proficiency you have made in religion, or you may think more highly than you ought to, of your talent, power, and dexterity to combat your enemy. Rely upon it, if you are not wholly conquered and subdued you will at least carry away some wounds, or receive some stabs injurious to your peace of mind and without application to the Physician of souls, they may prove mortal.

Christian Newcomer.

#### THE POWER OF LOVE.

"Lovest thou me?" The question is important to all. It is especially important to the Christian. It stimulates him and gives him a fresh zeal and a relish for the discharge of all Christian duties. The good man delights in religious duties. He loves his closet, he loves the family altar, he loves the place of social prayer, and he loves to worship God in the great congregation. He loves to read the Scriptures, and he loves to minister to the wants of the needy. He loves to perform these duties exactly in the proportion that he loves Jesus Christ. The sweetest moments of his life are those in which he holds communion with his God in the use of some means of grace; and there is a sweetness in his life and service which he could not have but for the fact that he loves Jesus Christ.

Alexander Owen.

JANUARY 7.

Rev. Isaiah Potter, 1819.

JANUARY 8.

Rev. David Kosht, 1837.

#### THE HIGHEST CALLING.

Ministers should consider the dignity of the position they occupy. They move in the same train and labor with prophets, apostles, and Jesus Christ himself. It is no mean company, nor is it a mean employment. It is the highest, noblest calling on earth. It is not true that James A. Garfield went up to the presidency. He went down from the ministry to the White House. When Andrew Jackson was president a minister called upon him and asked to be appointed to an office which he very much desired to fill. The president asked him what his profession was. He replied that he was a minister. "Well," said the president, "you had better hold on to that, for I have no office within my gift that will compare with it." The old hero was not much of a Christian, but he usually kept on hand a good supply of common sense. The prophet said that those who turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars forever and ever. Those who now go forth weeping, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again-come when the work is done; come when the conflict is over; come in the morning rejoicing, bringing their sheaves with them.

I. Weaver.

#### THE TRUE MANHOOD.

To be a true man is to be one of the noblest objects of God's creation. Some people think that to be a man means to be brave, daring, chivalrous, or self-asserting, obstinate, and reckless. Some seem to think it is synonymous with conventional politeness, or that it is inseparable from fine clothing and display. Some even regard the cigar, the wine-glass, and cards as the distinguishing marks of the true man. Others make it to consist almost wholly in intellectual culture and accomplishments. Intellectual culture and accomplishments do not, however, produce the highest type of manhood, else might some of the most notorious villains be esteemed among the finest gentlemen. There is a good deal that is fictitious and merely conventional in the modern character popularly denominated a gentleman.

J. P. Landis.

JANUARY 9.

Rev. S. Sutton, 1831.

JANUARY 10.

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#### RELIGION AT HOME.

The best provisions for the body can not satisfy the wants of the mind, and the best culture and feeding of the mind can not meet the demands of the soul. But God has provided for this our highest nature in the gift of his Son, bestowing peace, joy, and hope through him. Without being happy ourselves, we can not impart happiness to others; and without our higher nature being in harmony with God, we can not be happy. The very nature of religion is to diffuse itself. Its light is to shine, and to shine first of all and most of all in the family home. And what altar more sacred than the family altar? Where in all the world is religion so attractive, so blessed, as at home? When those who are so closely allied by natural ties, —father, mother, brother, sister,—bend together at the home altar, it would seem as if angels come near to behold the scene, and share in the joy it affords.

J. Dickson.

#### THE BREVITY OF LIFE.

How emblematic and significant is the flower of the field of our own introduction into this sublunary world, and of our exit out of the same; how short is every stage. How hurriedly we pass through each and step from one period of life to another. And infinitely shorter still is our transition from the mortal to the immortal state. And how many gay flowers cease to delight the eye and to perfume the air while soft winds blow, or ere autumn coolness has had time to bid them depart. Even so a dearly loved one has bloomed before our eyes, and by her sparkling beauties promised future hope and delight, but like some sweet flower she is no more.

H. G. Spayth.

JANUARY II.

Durti. Pickafor

#### INFLUENCE OF A HOLY LIFE.

A holy life is fitly represented by you lofty tower as it stands there in that desert waste, with its top towering far above the clouds. The winds and storms of the desert are fiercely howling about its base, but its top rests in eternal sunshine and calm. So is it with the saint of God on earth. The winds and the storms of the howling desolations of sin and wretchedness may chant their requiems about him; but his hopes, aspirations, and affections being dead to the world, his soul rests in sweet repose on the bosom of the Infinite, to whom he has consecrated all. Nothing in the church or out of it is so much needed at the present time as this holy consecration, this holy life. The inner life of the soul raises its possessor into the pure heavenly atmosphere of love; and rendering him almost omnipotent for good, he moves among his fellow-men like a flame of fire.

E. B. Kephart.

#### FAMILY CONVERSATION.

There is a real pleasure in the conversation in the family group in which each member performs his part. A finer, deeper, and better acquaintance is formed, which tends to a purer and better love and a sweeter sympathy for one another. The cares of the world and the cares of business are forgotten, or at least distributed among the whole until the weight is gone in the mutual bearing. Family cares, misunderstandings, and sorrows are lost in the more pleasant hour of sweet family communion. Let the children talk some. Proper parental instruction will soon teach them when it is improper for them to be heard; but let them have their turn. Their little minds and thoughts are quick, and they must talk. The parents will not know what the children are when out of sight if they are not permitted to talk when with them.

J. W. Hott.

JANUARY 13.

Miss Kelen Byrer, 1895

#### FOLLOWING CHRIST.

Christ is not only a commander, but a leader. There is no point of temptation, insult, or danger, no place so rough, afflictive, or toilsome, no vale so dark and dreary or steep, so abrupt, that he does not go before his people, leading the way and bidding them look unto him. While Jesus teaches the way, and maps the way, and leads the way, it is ours to follow him.

William Davis.

#### MOTHER.

Our mother! We shall never forget those soft hands that wiped the falling tear from our cheeks. They have left their impress indelibly there. And the lips from which fell so many kind words, and have so often pressed ours with showers of kisses, have left a touch which shall never be erased therefrom—never; no, never. The grace may hide her from sight; or if spared, gray locks may cover her temples; her brow may be covered with long lines, and her cheeks with furrows, but she will lose none of her loveliness. She is our mother still.

B. F. Booth.

#### JANUARY 15.

Prof. David N. Howe, A. M., 1848.

#### JANUARY 16.

Bishop Henry Kumler, jr., 1801. Rev. Randolph Rock, A. M., 1851. Rev. Hiram Elwell, 1833. Rev. J. W. Fulkerson, 1822.

Tay B. 1, 10che 1898

#### GOD-CHOSEN MEN.

That brave, courageous three hundred, eliminated from an army of cowards, sifted from a lesser army of men not swift for action, went forward for victory,—a few against a multitude. They are the type of the men whom God chooses out of the great mass of humanity to do for him his best work. Courage, adaptation, and agility are qualities indispensible in the struggle. And then, after all, it is not of Gideon's army as of God that the work is done. He chooses his men, and working through them achieves the victory.

D. Berger.

#### TRUE EDUCATION.

Moral culture—the culture of the soul—must go hand in hand with the culture of the intellect. Educate the masses in this their twofold nature and the republic is safe. Give them soul-culture as well as mind development. No high degree of success can be wrought out without this. Teach them not only to know, but to be; for after all is said, it is not so much what a man knows, as what he *is*, that is of importance. Hence those educational institutions that combine the culture of the soul with the development of the mind, and only these, are the best promoters of that human culture which is so essential to the perpetuity of our free institutions.

I. L. Kephart.

JANUARY 17.

President Samuel B. Ailen, D. D., 1830. Rev. Wm. Fisher, 1813.

JANUARY 18.

### THE CHRISTIAN CHRIST-LIKE.

Some one has said, "A selfish man will not sow his seed except he reap the whole harvest, nor plant the vines except he press all the grapes into his own vessel. The wheel of his diligence will not move except the oil of profit be in it." Although we were not born for ourselves, yet it is hardly possible that the natural man can be unselfish. While the worldling bestows benefits upon others for his own sake, the Christian does it for their sakes. That is the purest benevolence which has the least of self in it, and that benevolence has the least of self in it which has the most of Christ in it. Christ was a perfect benefactor of mankind. He could have no selfish motive in what he has done for us. The Christian is, in his capacity, a fac-simile of Christ, and must therefore be admitted to be the true benefactor of his race. Christ loved the world; so does the Christian. Christ gave himself for the world; so does every true believer. Christ went about doing good; so does the Christian.

W. J. Shuey.

### VICTORY FOR THE RIGHT.

In the struggle of morals in all ages, the highest type of purity has been in a great minority. In the efforts to educate, ignorance has ever commanded more suffrages than culture has. In the efforts to cure disease, the medical profession has been in most cases defeated. Shall we therefore conclude that morality, and education, and medicine are to be awarded tokens of defeat? Nay; but victory belongs to every one that does a noble part in promoting any of those interests. So victory is the just award of every one that battles for Christ, for truth, for the right, though his efforts meet with but partial success, and even though he die with the cries of derision pouring into his ears. Any degree of success is victory if it is for Christ, for truth, and for the right.

M. Wright.

JANUARY 19.

JANUARY 20.

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### COMMUNION WITH GOD.

We may have God in all our thoughts, make him the object of our highest affections, and the source of our greatest joys. We may enjoy his counsel in all our worldly cares, have him partake with us in all our religious feasts, and have the most bitter cup of sorrow sweetened by his royal presence. The soul wholly devoted to Christ can as well feast at a table spread with bitter herbs as with the richest dainties. Closely wedded to the Lord, the Christian sees him in all his providences. To have constant communion with him is to rejoice always, and in everything give thanks.

Wm. Hanby, 1850.

### THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION.

The human mind is subject to many and varied influences, but among them all there is none so powerful as that of religion. When it is uppermost in the mind and affections, it lays hold of, and holds with great tenacity, the strongest passions of the heart; and being exercised by motives drawn from the world to come, it brings the whole soul into subjection, and rules in it and governs it with a power to which nothing else can lay claim. Its influence also pervades the whole man. It not only forms and directs the outward habits and deportment of a man, but sitting on the throne of the affections, it molds and shapes the heart and directs the most secret workings of the mind. Hence religion gives character to individuals, to society, to communities, and to nations.

J. K. Billheimer.

# JANUARY 21.

Bishop Christian Newcomer, 1749. Prof. J. E. Guitner, 1841. Rev. J. W. Nye, 1836.

Lois Leota Fill 1907.

JANUARY 22.

Rev. J. C. Smith, 1819.

### THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST.

Christianity, in its very nature, is diffusive. It is put into the hearts of men and women that they may place it into the hearts and hands of others. It is the world's only panacea for all its moral evils. There is no substitute for it. It goes direct to the object, and, if allowed its fullest sway, works a radical reformation, beginning in the hearts of men and working out to the habits. It offers no glittering paraphernalia. It goes not in the guise of mysterious pass-words. It offers no political alliances or agencies. Nothing in its hand but the cross of Christ; nothing on its lips but the plain message of the gospel, and nothing with which to enforce it but the persuasive eloquence of divine love.

W. J. Shuey.

#### TO PARENTS.

Among all our duties, those we owe to our children stand out most prominently. We owe them a Christian example, hearty encouragement in every good work, and well-timed and wise instructions. We should throw around them a breastwork to secure them from the vices to which they are exposed, and encourage them to battle valiantly against all sinful and soul-destroying influences. This will make the rising generation better citizens, more useful and influential men and women, and will earlier and more fully develop in them pure Christian principles.

Solomon Vonnieda, 1859.

JANUARY 23.

JANUARY 24.

Rev. Lewis R. Jones, 1853.

Minnie Stough 1875 Mildred M. Hile 1904

### PRAYER FOR COLLEGES.

If these institutions are such instruments of power, if they are a necessity to the success of the church, if they are so closely connected with the very stability of Christianity itself, how appropriate for Christians, ay, how incumbent it is upon them to pray for God's blessings upon them! Pray that the teachers may be filled with the spirit of wisdom and of godliness. Pray for the students, that their education may be sanctified to the promotion of the truth and the glory of God. Pray for the agents, that they may have wisdom and success in their very arduous and often discouraging work. Pray that the people may properly appreciate these institutions and liberally sustain them with their means. Pray that the colleges and seminaries may be in the future even more than in the past active evangelistic centers, where many shall be converted to God, and whence powerful evangelistic influences shall go forth.

J. P. Landis.

#### PREACHING THE GOSPEL.

The work of preaching the gospel is of fearful import. Sorrow and joy will ever mingle in the cup of the Lord's messenger, while in this vale of tears. He will ever be obliged to sow in tears, but he shall reap in joy. The great and awful harvest is fast approaching. Soon every living minister now in the gospel field will complete his labors and be called to render an account of his stewardship. The scenes of the last judgment, blended with our responsibility to God, and the salvation of souls, should move to vigorous action every minister of the cross, if by any means he may save some. Oh, that I could repeat the ministers' responsibilities in trumpet tones in the ears of such as have partially or wholly left the field of gospel labor for secular employments!

Wm. R. Rhinehart, 1848.

JANUARY 25.

President Charles H. Kiracofe, A. M., 1845.

Lloyd marin 1876

JANUARY 26.

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# UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES.

The great want of our times is to search out for great bodies of truth in every phase or department in life. The life is more than meat and the body than raiment. When Christ the great teacher taught, he taught not details but systems; he dignified and glorified fundamental principles and elevated his hearers to them. So it seems to me that for those who are being educated, and to a degree will teach and light up the pathway of others, nothing can be more important than the habit of looking for the underlying principle, the inquiry, "Where am I in a system of truth?"

G. A. Funkhouser.

### TO YOUNG MEN.

Young man, if you would be right, start right. If you would make a success of life, start in the road that leads to success. Abandon your own way if it is not in harmony with God's way. Seek first to be reconciled to God, and let the all-absorbing purpose of your life be the glory of God, and you have the promise that all needful things shall be added unto you. When you undertake for God, God will undertake for you. His word stands pledged to you that whatever material things are necessary shall be yours. Then if you would be sure of support in life seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness. Would you be happy, seek first the kingdom of God; for happiness can be found in no other way. Whatever your business, lay it aside until you have secured the salvation of your soul.

C. H. Kiracofe.

JANUARY 27.

Rev. Richard J. Parrett, 1847.

JANUARY 28.

# THE POWER OF MUSIC.

Music is a powerful means of expression and impression. It penetrates the very depths of the soul, seeks out the tenderest emotions and sentiments, and is able to arouse or subdue, to brighten or extinguish them. How wonderful is its influence over all sentient beings! The fabled Orpheus tamed wild beasts with the bewitching tones of his voice. Especially does music affect the morals of men, drawing them from wild passions, and calling out the "better angel of their nature." It has brought tears from the eyes of the drunkard, and helped him to abandon the cup. It has delivered many a poor soul from his "evil spirit," and, even more than David's harp could do for the proud king, lifted him into a life of holiness before the Lord. What heart is so hard that it can not be touched by the poetical strains of a sacred song? Many who have withstood the appeals of sermon after sermon, can date their conversion to the impression made upon them by some simple hymn. Music is one of our spiritual devotions which will never be abandoned. We shall sing in heaven.

J. W. Etter.

### GENUINE SUCCESS.

To the young comes again and again this all-important question, "What is real success?" We all wish to succeed. How shall we, unless we know the inherent element of success? Money is not success. Social rank is not success. The applause of men is not success. Abundance of leisure is not success. Worldly achievement is not success. A man may have all these and still be a failure. Real manhood or womanhood, crowned with a rich and varied culture of body, mind, and heart, is genuine success.

.G. P. Macklin.

JANUARY 29.

Jan J 3-1 5 4 16 45

JANUARY 30.

President Henry Garst, D. D., 1836.

Daniel J. Starker

1878

### A TEMPERANCE LETTER.

BALTIMORE, June 5, 1807.

Friend Hoeflich: - Although writing causes me much trouble, I feel bound in my conscience to write you these few lines. I had not thought to receive from time to time such unpleasant news from you. You are, since you left Baltimore, above all measure in the habit of using strong drink. Some of your friends had a suspicion of your drinking while you were yet in Baltimore; but as we were not sure about it we hoped you were wronged in this, because we thought much better of you than the facts warranted. Oh, this pains us very much. We must hear all around, "Hoeflich is a great drunkard." Is it possible? A man that knows the truth and confesses it fallen so awfully! This we had not expected. We hoped that you would be salt in your neighborhood—a light and leader. Alas! it is to the contrary. My friend, you bring upon yourself a great calamity. You bring sorrow upon your family. Your children will despise, scorn you. But that is the least consideration. For a man to profess God with his mouth and deny him with his works—that is awful! O Hoeflich! you will be lost. But that is not all. You hurt the cause of Christ; and besides strengthening the wicked in their ways you entice others and become a partaker of their sins, and make yourself guilty of their blood, whereby you bring upon yourself an awful judgment. Tremble, and turn! You must either decide to go to hell or give up drinking. There is no other way; and this you know and believe. Hoeflich, O Hoeflich, turn quickly! Leave off; it is time. Give up drinking; otherwise God will give you up, and then, oh, woe! You ask, "Is there any help for me?" There can be; there must be; there is. Your strength is too feeble: but the power of the Almighty is sufficient. But you must give up strong drink. You must give it up entirely. And dare you hesitate? Is it not much better to suffer thirst in this world than to thirst in hell through eternity? Oh, resolve to quit drinking. One thing I must tell you - Satan will not let you loose very easily. But you need not fear. The almighty Savior will help you. Venture upon him; he will sustain you. Pray, pray; call aloud; persevere. Tell your wife and children, tell your dear friends, to help you pray. Oh, how much better it would have been if you had staved with your family in Baltimore. At the time when you were here this hellish spirit was yet bound. Oh, that the Lord may have mercy upon you, is my wish and prayer, for you and your house.

Your friend.

W. Otterbein.

# JANUARY 31.

Rev. Samuel Huber, 1782. Rev. Stephen Lillibridge, 1815.
Rev. John P. Anthony, 1834.

### WINTER SOLSTICES.

These brief bleak days, these long dark nights, We rise on tiptoe e'en to mark The solstice reached, the utmost verge, The sun's return, a quicker dawn.

So oft in sorrow's long dark night, By faith we strive to pierce the gloom, And cry, "How long, O Lord, how long 'Till thou return and bring the light?"

Lizzie K. Miller.

# REBRUHEY.

### THE TRUTH OF GOD PREVAILETH.

Why are you oft despairing,
When God would have you blest?
His promise are you fearing?
Can in it find no rest?
The truth of God prevaileth,—
It ever must endure;
Its justice never faileth,
Its mercy is secure.

Though in their pride uprising,
The nations it oppose;
Its sacred form despising,
Their hatred full disclose;
The truth of God prevaileth,—
It ever must endure;
Its justice never faileth,
Its mercy is secure.

The moon may lose her station,
The sun grow cold and die;
Earth lost in conflagration,
The stars their courses fly.
The truth of God prevaileth,—
It ever must endure;
Its justice never faileth,
Its mercy is secure.

The promise that he giveth,
Is sure as his own throne;
While God is God he liveth,
Of truth the corner-stone.
The truth of God prevaileth,—
It ever must endure;
Its justice never faileth,
Its mercy is secure.

E. S. Lorenz.

### CHRISTIAN MORALITY THE BASIS OF NATIONAL SECURITY.

There are but two principles of power in the government. The one is the moral virtue of the people, the power of self-government, which gets all its vital energy and puissance from the Holy Scriptures, and the other is the power of the sword. And it is impossible to govern a nation without one or the other of these forces; for it is certain the nation that throws away the culture and support of religious principles deprives itself of the only enduring security of self-government for the masses, and must ultimately come to the last resort for protection, which is physical force, or the arbitration of the bayonet.

John Kemp.

#### THE REWARD.

Missionaries and their families who go abroad and labor in the vineyard of the Lord, sacrificing health, wealth, and ease, will have a rich reward in heaven. Those who give, and give liberally, for their support will have a share with them in the bright world above. Money given to the poor, or to the cause of missions, if given with the right motive, is lodged in the bank of heaven, and will bring a big interest. If you have the missionary spirit, keep it alive in your heart.

J. C. Bright, 1855.

Ethel Jones 1890.

FEBRUARY 2.

# THE COLLEGE A CENTER OF SPIRITUAL POWER.

Nothing will so clearly prove the utility and necessity of a college as the fact that it is a powerful center of truth—truth vitalized in holy work. Nothing else will so surely bring to it the means for its support. I give it as my judgment that the great need of our colleges and seminaries to-day is power with God, the result of a profound consecration to his service, both upon the part of those directly concerned in their management and of the churches in whose locality they are situated. Our colleges need powerful revivals. The young men and women in attendance upon them need to be brought to Christ in great numbers. This will be the result when the pulsations of the divine Spirit are perceptibly felt by all who come in contact with the college and with the church. Our collegechurches especially should "be filled with the Spirit."

C. J. Kephart.

# WOMEN LIVING FOR OTHERS.

Is it not noble, is it not grand, to live for others? And this excellent work is not all given unto the men to do; women also are called. Oh, thank God, women are also called into this glorious work of living for others. Nor are all such workers on foreign shores we know; but in schools, in hospitals, in their own homes are those living for others, suffering for Christ's sake as essentially as others in foreign fields. We are glad that woman's missionary societies are now organized and in working order in nearly all the orthodox churches, giving so worthy an outlet to so much soul-energy; and but a glance at woman's work is needed to prove that it is a great power in the hands of God to hasten the fulfillment of his commission. Lizzie K. Miller.

FEBRUARY 3.

Estela P. M. ...., 187? Sophia de l'acce 1 247

FEBRUARY 4.

Rev. R. W. Parks, 1828.

#### A ROYAL ROAD.

There is a royal road to learning, an imperial way to high rank in the empire of mind; and it lies through love of learning, definiteness of aim, concentration of attention, and systematic study, subordinated to the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the soul. If all should be willing to travel this road, there would be immediate promise of the reign of "sweetness and light," as manifest in him who is wisdom and righteousness. More and more would mind gain control of matter, and more would intelligence and piety prevail to the utter overthrow of the powers of prejudice and wrong, and the glad era dawn, when

"Deserts shall blossom and the barren sing; Justice and Mercy, Holiness, and Love Among the people walk; Messiah reign, And earth keep jubilee a thousand years."

J. E. Guitner

#### INFLUENCE.

Society is a great chain, and in it we all are links. When one is touched or drawn, all are moved with it. We are members of one great body; and when one member suffers, all the other parts sympathize with it. We can not, if we would, avoid affecting others by this secret power—our life, our words, and our looks. The company we keep and avoid molds others for good or evil; and if we would withhold our influence by withdrawing from society into the deepest solitude, that act would affect them. The sum and drift of our conduct here is a strong request for everybody to be and do like us. We touch cords every day that will not cease to vibrate, but will bless or curse man while eternity rolls or being lasts. Our least acts are like pebbles cast into water—they start the ripple that will roll until its undulations strike the eternal shore, and fashion character in the unseen regions of the immortal world.

Wm. Dillon.

# FEBRUARY 5.

FEBRUARY 6.

Rev. George Adam Geeting, 1741.

### SINGLENESS OF AIM.

Every man should have one occupation, and make that his life-work. A man who undertakes to be a farmer, preacher, doctor, lawyer, merchant, and mechanic in this short life, lives to very little purpose, and is scarcely missed when gone. He may have friends enough to bury him, but they will feel almost happy to have the privilege of showing him such a favor. If in matters of a temporal character directness of purpose is necessary to achieve the object of our pursuit, how much more in matters of religion, upon which hang the destinies of the soul?

M. L. Tibbetts,

# LAST WORDS OF REV. GEO. A. GEETING.

"I feel as though my end had come. Hark! hark! Who spoke? Whose voice is this I hear? Light! light! what golden light! Now all is dark again. Please help me out of this bed." His request being granted, he said, "Now let us sing—

"Come, thou long expected moment, Come thou Spirit from on high; 'Tis thy call, my Lord and Master; How shall I express my joy, When thy grace and power of love Bids me rise to climes above!"

After the singing, the man of God sunk on his knees, leaning against his bed, and prayed fervently, giving thanks to God for his abundant mercy toward him.

# FEBRUARY 7.

Rev. A. Brazee, 1817. Rev. B. M. Long, A. M., 1847. Rev. George Sickafoose, 1840.

FEBRUARY 8.

Rev. John W. Lilly, 1847.

Fletcher Thomas Born Feb 1882. Mrs. J. E. Grimes. 1873.

#### HOME-MAKING.

Is it not a religious duty to tell every young girl and woman that there is no work in this wide world more useful, more far-reaching in its results and influences, better calculated to call out all the good qualities of the soul, mind, and spirit than doing everything in our power toward building up a beautiful Christian home? Let us think of it more, what it implies to make a home. Not a place simply in which to eat and sleep, but—how shall I describe it? I can not; but the memory and blessedness of it overshadows my life with a holy benediction. You know (alas! all do not) what it is—for all along memory's wall hang such beautiful pictures, and in everyone making one and crowning all, is that of mother. Ah, it is only another name for love as bright, as warm, as abiding as the sun in the heavens.

Mrs. D. L. Rike.

#### MIND-FOOD.

Words, sentences, propositions, or signs of ideas presented to the mind through the organs become mind-food, generate and grow thought. The development of the mind and the formation of character depend upon the nature of mind-food as much as the body, and its development depends upon bread. As our thoughts are, so will our lives be. "As he thinketh in his heart, so is he." There is another scripture which fits well to this, — "From the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." Do you ask, May I, can I, control my thought? May I be master of my thoughts? I answer, Yes, if you will it so you may, as well as prevent the "birds from building nests in your hair." If not, why the exhortation of the text, "Think on these things?" We may not be able to prevent the suggestion of a subject, but we can refuse to entertain it. We can keep out the evil and entertain the good. I would emphasize, that if our thoughts are on elevating themes we can not fall, no matter what our surroundings—ay! more, we shall ascend.

FEBRUARY 9.

Wr. J. Shuey, 1827

FEBRUARY 10.

Rev. Isaac L. Buchwalter, 1820.

### THE HIGHEST HONOR.

The honor attaching to faithful preachers of the gospel is above all human language to express. Jesus said, "If any man serve me, him will my Father honor." Let me suffer reproach from men, if it must be; but the disapproval of God is intolerable. The sweetest experience in life is the approval of a good conscience and the honor of heirship in God's blessed family. No honor can be higher, no fellowship more delightful. From some cause I fear the dignity of the ministry and the respect due to those who preach the word are not what they ought to be. If the clergy is to blame, let us look to Jesus' life and work as our model until we are transformed into his image. The mind and spirit of Christ are especially needed in those who are examples to the flock.

M. S. Drury.

### GRADUATION DAY.

Many have marked out their course previous to the day of graduation, but some are yet looking for a field in which to work. Each face on that great day betrays the questioning and thinking going on behind it, wondering what life will be, what place in the world's pleasure or the world's work. Some, feeling the stir of high purposes, imagine they see into the near future the desert rejoicing and blossoming as the rose, and others wise enough to know that actual results in life come slowly, and come only after patient sowing and careful tending, look forward into the far future hoping in God's time much good may result from a life devoted to his service. Let each stop and consider whether nature has not given endowments which should be considered in the choice of a pursuit. Are there not among the number men and women who could best serve the purpose of life by giving themselves to mission-work? Such a life does not promise wealth as the world counts it, but shall receive a hundredfold, and "shall inherit everlasting life," for all sacrifices for the gospel's sake.

Lillie R. Keister.

FEBRUARY II. Henry Lunes 148D. Carlton Leroy Thomas 883 Vrace P. Militer: 1883

### CORRECTING CHILDREN.

You should never correct your children in anger. If you correct them in a good-natured and affectionate manner you can not fail to leave the impression on their minds and hearts that you correct them for their good. When I look back to the days of my childhood, I remember that good-natured, kind words, or even correction with the rod administered in an affectionate manner, always made the best impression on my mind. Many parents correct their children only when they are angry, and then with a wrong spirit and bitter words till they become discouraged and have no heart to do anything for themselves or any one else. Rather let them encourage their children and make the impression on their minds that they are dearly beloved and would be greatly missed from the family circle if they were taken away.

William Miller.

# THE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE.

"The greatest conception of man is the Christian college." In college the powers of the mind are awakened. Cultivation strengthens them. Here the mind is led to greater depths and carried to loftier heights than it would reach unaided. But if the mind is encouraged to fortify itself against God, or if the moral influence is not good, or if the heart is neglected, it may resist truth, and see no God in nature, which it has learned to love. But in a Christian college, a college which is consecrated to God through Christ by the Holy Ghost, a moral influence is exerted. The Spirit makes truth impressive, and hearts are won to Christ. The mere college aims to make the intellectual nature master of the physical; but the Christian college aims at this and more—the moral nature is to govern the intellectual as the intellectual governs the physical. There is no less care in mental discipline, there is as much thoroughness in the mastery of the arts and sciences, there is as great attention in the cultivation of taste in literature; but these are not the end. They are the means to an end. They are to pay tribute to a superior. The whole man is to be cultivated, and S. B. Ervin. the cultivated man is to be God's.

FEBRUARY 13.

FEBRUARY 14.

Rev. D. Berger, D. D., 1832.

Lewis Davis. 1814

### MORAL RECTITUDE.

Various are the standards by which men determine the moral qualities of their actions. Legal sanction is the rule of some. Hence every action which we escape legal censure is right. Expediency is the rule by which not a few determine the character of their actions. The standard of others is their own sense of right and wrong. There is another rule which is founded upon the traditions of the fathers. Well, so far as their example is worthy, all right. But these rules have many exceptions and limitations. The moral quality of actions must be determined by the will of the Law-giver of the universe as we find it in the Christian Scriptures. Here we have a standard of moral rectitude perfect, complete, answering to all time. To this standard all actions must be brought in order that we may determine their moral quality.

J. T. Vardaman.

#### THE MEEK IN HEART.

Who sees the most beauty in the earth? Not the man who owns the most of it. Who enjoys his food, clothing, and habitation the most fully and sweetly? Not the man who has the greatest abundance and most excellent quality. No! He enjoys all natural attainments and possessions who sees the most of the goodness and provident care of the Lord in them. The meek think of their own unworthiness and of their Father's merciful bounty. Every natural gift is a lavish goodness of the Lord, and they recognize his love in it. Not only their bodies, but their souls are fed at these earthly tables. They are contented and happy, for they trust in him, and thus they enjoy every possession without fear of its loss. Even the delights of the natural senses are fuller and richer, for there is a heavenly delight within them.

W. M. Givens.

FEBRUARY 15.

Rev. Levi Field, 1840.

FEBRUARY 16.

#### THE COURAGE OF FAITH.

The courage of faith made Luther mightier than the Diet of Worms, and the combined power of persecuting and bloody Rome, and enabled him to say to his fearful friends who tried to persuade him not to appear to answer the summons of Rome, "I would go if there were as many devils in Worms as there are tiles on the roofs of the houses." He went. Would the infidel or hypocrite have gone for his cause? No. Luther was moved by the courage of faith—faith in the righteousness of his cause and in the promise and protection of the forty-sixth psalm. He knew he was right and that Rome was wrong. The hardest man to scare is the one who believes he is right and would rather please God than himself.

R. Rock.

### CHRISTIAN FRIENDSHIP.

Bathing in its pure and limpid waters we shall be healed of the leprosy of selfishness and covetousness, which are the prevailing elements of man's nature, unrenewed by the power of divine grace. Christian friendship dispenses blessings to all around. While it is pure and holy in its character and noble in its purposes, it does not pass the poor and suffering ones by, but dispenses its gifts to the needy. It waits patiently by the bed of the sick and dying, draws back the veil of mortality, and lets the light of eternity fall upon the couch of death. In the performance of its mission on earth there is a faithfulness, promptness, and constancy that show it to be divine.

Halleck Floyd.

FEBRUARY 17.

FEBRUARY 18.

### INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY.

Along with those of the church, our individual responsibilities have kept pace. The increased growth in wealth, talent, and influence in the church argues a providential plan for the discharge of these obligations; for I notice that there are those who have scattered and yet increased, and have realized the blessedness of giving. Can we not give praise to that providence which, while like all unthinking creatures we have rushed into the thick of the conflict, and are become surrounded by hosts of responsibilities, has yet presented plans and prepared agencies for their removal? Now you will kneel to pray to-night, my brother, as a suppliant at mercy's door. How must you feel with past obligations yet resting upon you?

D. F. Wilberforce.

#### WOMAN'S WORK FOR WOMAN.

The great fact that gave a new impulse to woman's work for women was, that men have almost no access to women in heathen countries, but to women the door has been opened. Christianity is breaking down the barriers which Mohammedanism and paganism had erected, keeping women in worse than Egyptian bondage. Christian women have by these means had their hearts filled with gratitude, and also with humility and a sense of responsibility that has given rise to the various women's missionary societies. The gifts to the treasury of the Lord have thus been vastly increased, and greater zeal is manifest in Christian work at home. The influence of all this on woman herself has been most happy. She has grown rapidly intellectually and religiously, and is just as good a wife and mother to-day as before a woman's missionary society existed. There is no antagonism between the work abroad and the work at home.

Mrs. S. Haywood.

FEBRUARY 19.

P.C. Hill 1863.

FEBRUARY 20.

Rev. Wm. McKee, 1831. Rev. A. A. Sellers, 1808.

#### CHEAP SALES.

Some persons sell themselves for pleasure. They give loose reins to all their appetites. They discard the idea of self-denial. Their motto is, "Eat and drink, for to-morrow we die." The question with them is, How or where can I enjoy myself the most? They never think of results. Where will this or that course end? is no question with them. They take no thought for to-morrow. They live for the present. The sensualist is such a man. The drunkard is such a man. The glutton is such a man. Surely such persons sell themselves cheaply enough.

S. A. Mowers.

#### CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY.

When the bells ring the alarm of fire, then it is that the members of the fire-companies run to their engines, seize their hose, their buckets, their hooks and ladders, and citizens hasten along the streets almost breathless, because property and life are in danger. When the nation's life is in peril from an internal or an external enemy, then it is that the government hastens to its preservation by every means within its power. And when Christians see the world of mankind in rebellion against God, that reconciliation can be brought about through Christ only, that all who die irreconciled must perish, and that Christ has committed to his own embassadors the words of reconciliation, it is then they fly on their divine mission; it is then that whatsoever they do, they do it with their might.

Daniel Shuck.

FEBRUARY 21.

FEBRUARY 22.

#### \* BRICKS WITHOUT STRAW.

When a man marries a wife who has always earned her own money, and after marriage goes the weary, wearing round of duty at his hearth-stone, but with whom he never voluntarily divides a dollar of the income, who must know how, where, and when she spends every dime he chooses to dole out to her, upon her earnest solicitation, depriving her of that noble independence which every true woman prizes above gold, one involuntarily cries out "injustice,"—"bricks without straw." When one or several members of the church shirk their fair share of the church-expenses, simply because they can, and leave their brethren to pay their own, and a part of their share besides, one can but cry out *injustice*, and wish for a still more vigorous expletive to apply to such conduct.

C. Briggs.

#### TO THE AFFLICTED AND DISCONSOLATE.

Art thou undergoing some severe ordeal of suffering? Art thou afflicted in body and perplexed in mind? Hast thou been long tossed upon some bed of sickness? and have days of pain and nights of sleepless weariness been appointed unto thee? Art thou in straitened circumstances, and suffering for the comforts of life? Art thou suffering some wrong or unkindness at the hand of any one? Has the light of thine eyes been laid in the grave, and art thou left in sadness and lamentation? And is the way God is leading thee dark and mysterious? Are there no foot-prints of love traceable in thy way? Is there no light in the cloud which obscures thy sky? No ray of hope for thee in thy earthly future? Be patient; refrain from repining. Utter no impatient or unkind word. You will yet be made to say of God's dealings with you that "he hath done all things well."

J. Hoke.

FEBRUARY 23.

Prof. Cyrus J. Kephart, A. M., 1852.

FEBRUARY 24.

Rev. D. F. Wilberforce, 1857.

Genothan Weaver 1823

#### A PRAYING MOTHER.

There is no other one means so certain to result in the salvation of a sinner as a mother's prayers. There is power in the very thought of a mother, with a Christian mother's heart and faith, pleading before the throne of God day and night for the salvation of a son or daughter. No other being in the universe has such a hold on the affections of her children, and no other created being possesses such undying love for them. With such a hold on their affections and with such a heart of love for their welfare, is not the true Christian mother qualified to pray for her offspring? Are not her intercessions next in value to the intercessions of the Savior? Oh, how many thousands have been saved through the agonizing prayers of pious mothers!

D. Edwards, 1849.

#### CHRISTIAN CULTURE.

We must never forget that all truth is important. To speak of it lightly or disparagingly reflects on the character of the great Author of truth. There may be gradations in truth, and so it may be proper to speak of one truth as relatively more important than another. Take the truths of physical science, by which we learn the relation of things in the natural world. The truths are important, but of subordinate importance. Next take the truths of mental science and you learn the laws by which mind is governed, and the relation of mind to mind. These truths are higher and more important, for they lift us into the sphere of the intellectual. Now look at the truths of moral science and you learn the laws that belong to the creature's moral nature and his relation to the Creator and the duties growing out of such relation. Is not this the highest department of truth? All believers will say it is. Yet all truth has but one center, and its radiations proceed from this center and must proclaim the glory of the great Author. A. B. Sherk.

## FEBRUARY 25.

FEBRUARY 26.

Rev. John Smith, 1796.

#### REVIVALS.

The responsibility of men for revivals must be insisted upon, or we make God responsible for their absence. The fact is that God is always ready to revive his people, and has placed the means of promoting a deeper work of grace in their hands. Whenever these means are employed the results invariably follow; for the test of the divinity of religious power is not its arbitrariness, as men too often suppose. Physical nature does not monopolize the order of the universe. Cause and effect may lose the elements of necessity in the realm of choice, but none the less obtain in the spiritual world.

E. S. Lorenz.

## THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST.

Of this we may be sure: Jesus Christ will not come contrary to the great scheme and plan of hmuan redemption. He must remain in heaven until the time of the restitution of all things. He will remain in heaven as man's puissant advocate so long as men will accept his mediation. But when Christianity has done all its Author designed it to do for the redemption and regeneration of the human family, individually and collectively, when the Holy Spirit has exerted himself in man's behalf to the uttermost extent of his prerogative, when grace has done all for man that the justice and mercy of God will allow, when the last soul that will be saved is saved, then, and not until then, will be the time of the coming of the Son of Man. How long a time that will be, none can tell; for we know not when the Master cometh, at evening, or at midnight, or at the cock-crowing, or in the morning. Only this I know, Jesus died for me; and whether I wake or sleep at the time of his coming, he will own and honor me.

G. P. Macklin.

## FEBRUARY 27.

Hattie E. Eag . 180n.

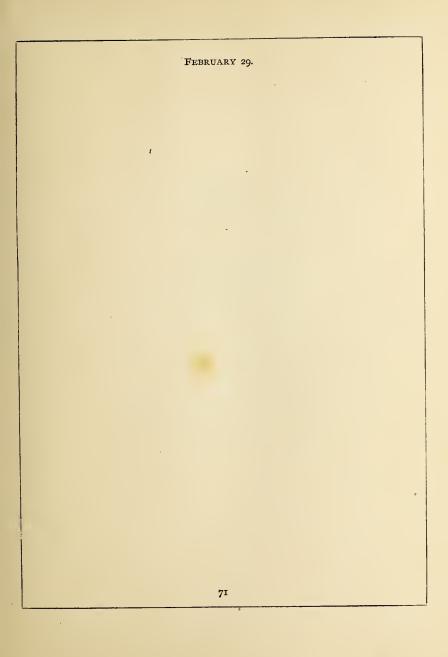
#### FEBRUARY 28.

Rev. George G. Nickey, 1818. Rev. Z. Warner, D. D., 1833. Rev. J. S. Mills, A. M., 1848.

#### CHARACTER AND DESTINY.

We see the dignity and value of human life when we remember that it gives character to our future endless existence. It takes the ball but a moment to pass through the gun's muzzle; but that momentary passage fixes the bullet's course. If the gun's muzzle points north, to the north the bullet goes; but if it points south, southward the ball flies. It takes the coin but a moment to pass through the mint; but that momentary passage fixes the character of the coin. Whatever stamp it receives it carries with it to the counting-room, to the market, to the place of exchange. I hold in my hand a gold coin. I call it ten dollars. Others who once owned it called it ten dollars. I know not through what places of exchange it had passed; but I know that through all these places of exchange it has had the character stamped upon it as it passed through the mint. So with us. In this brief period called human life we settle the question what we shall be in all the time to come. Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him. Upward was the bent of his being, and upward he went. Moses spurned Egypt's throne, having his eyes fixed on the invisible, and on the Mount of Transfiguration he appeared with Christ in glory. His eye of faith was turned toward the Invisible, and to the Invisible he went. The rich man was worldly. His eyes were turned downward, and downward he went. In hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torment. "Be not deceived, God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." Every soul will reach its own level; and every one settles in this life what that level shall be. What a thought that here we sow the seed for an immortal harvest! What a tremendous significance does this fact give to human life! "Give me the trend of your life, and I will tell you your destiny."

S. A. Mowers.



#### HE LEADETH ME.

All the way my Savior leads me.

Oh how sweet it is to feel,
'Though I walk in pain and weakness

He has power on earth to heal.

All the way my Savior leads me;
And he knoweth why 'tis good
I should walk beneath the shadows—
Kind the hand that holds the rod.

All the way my Savior leads me,
'Though his ways are strange to me.
He is with me, I will walk them,
Trust for what I can not see.

All the way my Savior leads me.

'Tis a blessed thing to know,
Where he leadeth I may follow,
Where he calleth I may go.

All the way my Savior leads me.

Walk I now the narrow road,
'Tis the one he bids me travel—

And it leadeth home to God.

Lizzie Underwood.

# WHRCH.

#### OUR PRAISE.

With eyes intent upon the stars,
My spirit joins the twinkling host
In breathing praise through silent lips
To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Anon I seek the shady wood,

And catch the wild bird's joyous note;
Instant, I catch the wild bird's mood,

And pour my praise through joyous throat.

What matter, since the Father hears
Our breathings through the boundless blue,
As well our wild, delightful song?
What matter—so our praise be true?

Lizzie K. Miller.

#### TENDENCY OF A WRONG FAITH.

Men can not be long without some faith, without beliefs of some sort. When the bond with the church is broken, it does not always end with indifferentism or honest doubt. Other beliefs are accepted. Many accept the adage, "Let us eat and drink, for to-morrow we die." There is nothing but matter, and while we are living we have only to gratify our desires and get our wishes. Matter is the end of all. We lose life and become simply dust. Life perpetuates itself in other forms, but in us it will soon end. To notions like these the books give the name materialism. Notions like these do not make people stand bravely against wrong and vice. Materialism is against spiritual religion.

## I. A. Loos.

#### EDUCATION.

Every young person who possibly can secure a thorough education and does not do it, makes a great mistake. He may not realize it now, and may never find it out; but it is nevertheless a sad mistake. It will rob him of usefulness and enjoyment. It will circumscribe his influence and narrow the range of his mental powers. There is no effort so honorable as the digging for knowledge; no sacrifice more praiseworthy than sacrifice made for mental training. The greatest blessing for a young person, next to heart-felt religion and a sound, vigorous body, is a thorough training under competent teachers. "Stint, starve—anything to get an education," was the motto of one in the past generation of students; and there seems to be little reason now why any one desiring an education should fail. With seminaries and academies at our doors, endowed colleges and beneficiary helps to lessen the expense, a collegiate training is within the reach of every energetic and determined young man.

D. N. Howe.

MARCH I. Statter 18911

MARCH 2.

Prof. A. W. Drury, D. D., 1851.

#### USE OF THE PAST.

We should use the past so as to keep open in the soul the fountain of gratitude. Who has not enjoyed the kindly offices of friends? Who has not been the recipient of some precious memento? Who has not received from true, dear friends words of kindness and cheer, often accompanied with substantial help? Who has not been the object of parental care? Yea, who has not been the constant recipient of the mercies and blessings of the heavenly Father? Think of the solicitude of a father, the love and sacrifice of a mother, the instruction and influence of a kind, godly teacher, the delightful association of a school-mate, the joyous company of a friend, the wondrous deliverance and blessings of a gracious God, the products of human genius in the various forms of invention, discovery, laws, government, and civilization, and let the consciousness of our everlasting indebtedness to the past subserve the blessed purpose of keeping open in the human soul the deep fountains of gratitude and praise.

G. M. Mathews.

#### A WORK TO GLORY IN.

If I had assisted Gutenberg in his great invention (the press), by which we are able to bequeath our thoughts to the civilized world and the unborn millions of the coming generations, I should not be ashamed of it. If I had assisted Professor Morse in the invention of the apparatus by which we are able to send our tidings in advance of the wings of time and the steeds of the hurricane, I should not be ashamed of it. If I had ever assisted God in making a grain of corn or wheat or oats, I should not be ashamed of that. If I had assisted God in making the flowers that smile upon the fields, the shells and gems and pearls that sparkle in the deep, and the golden treasures that enrich the mine, I should be willing to have a particular account of the whole transaction written in a book, and a copy placed in every library and in every family on the face of the earth. If I had assisted God in making the earth with its furniture, the moon with her mountains, craters, and caverns, and Jupiter with his satellites, I should be willing to have the facts written on the rainbow and the rings of Saturn in letters of perpetual fire. But I praise the name of the Lord that he grants me daily the privilege of assisting him in a greater work than any or all of these-even the work of rescuing deathless souls from eternal I. K. Alwood. ruin.

## MARCH 3.

Bishop Samuel Heistand, 1781.

MARCH 4.

#### HUNGRY MINDS.

We frequently meet with those who are hungry for an education, and will not be satisfied without it. They are devouring every book that comes in their way. They should be in colleges, but will not be. Sometimes want of money prevents. Indeed, this is often the only cause. Many of the brightest minds in the land are found in log-cabins. But poverty is not always the hinderance. Parents with abundant means are opposed to putting money to as "poor a use" as that of sending a son or daughter to college. This is a great mistake, and often results in wrecking a hopeful life. A hungry, starving mind is an object of pity. The defeat of a legitimate ambition is sure to lead to disaster in many instances. A starved intellect is of but little use in the activities of life. Work not done may often be traced to this as a cause.

Z. Warner.

#### THE BIBLE AND THE UNGODLY.

Men do not like to read the Bible, because the spirit of it condemns a sinful life. God's children delight to read it because it is a lamp to their feet and a guide to their path. It promises rest to the burdened and comfort to the weary. Those sweet words of Jesus, "Let not your heart be troubled," have calmed the troubled breast of many a tempest-tossed mariner on the voyage of life. But to the sinner it speaks of death, outer darkness, eternal night, where there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. The Bible discloses to sinful man that there is discord somewhere between the soul, the spirit of order about, and the God who looks within. In the light of this truth man either comes to Christ and accepts the ransom he has made for sin, or hastens to drown all feeling in the tumult of a busy world, or perchance rushes to the extremes of a vicious life, and dies without hope and without God in the world.

George Keister.

MARCH 5.

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MARCH 6.

#### THE GOSPEL AND THE HEATHEN.

When a heathen becomes a Christian, the laws of his country, its religion and institutions, are all, or most all, against him. There is nothing in his surroundings and associations that would tend to elevate his mind or heart to things above. He is a new creature in Christ, and finds no pleasure in the things he once loved. They are all foolishness and error to him now, and he realizes that he has found the "pearl of great price," and entreats his friends to seek the same precious faith. None are more rejoiced in finding the precious boon than the oppressed women and slaves of those lands.

Mrs. M. B. Bridgeman.

#### SELF - FORGETFULNESS.

He who trusts God and does his duty will find the way of usefulness and happiness and success open wide. He who distrusts God becomes distrustful of his fellow-men, and will soon be found out. True merit and faithful toil for the Master will commend a man to the confidence of Christian people a thousand times more than he can secure by all his special efforts to secure the favor of the people. Those who are the most successful in life think little about themselves. In the world and its affairs men take good heed to themselves. Sometimes men in the church and in the ministry think they can serve their interests better by looking closely to them than by trusting to the Lord and the church. This is a great mistake. True merit finds a seasonable recognition. It wins its way to a position from which no foe can cast the possessor down. A good man does not have to arrange his own life. God does that for him. It is a wonderful experience for the heart to feel and to know that the life is in the hands of the Lord. It makes the Lord more precious and makes the life a thousand times more sacred, as well as ten thousand times more happy.

J. W. Hott.

MARCH 7.

Rev. Jacob A. Clemm, 1825.

MARCH 8.

Rev. Enoch Harper, 1842.

## THE CHRISTIAN'S GOLDEN AGE.

With many of the ancient heathens the golden age always lay in the past. It had gone by—irrevocably gone; and all that was left them was to mourn the good past and bear as best they might the ills of the present. With the Christian the good time, the best, lies on before. He looks out and makes provisions for a better time. Even the day of his death is better than the day of his birth. So the organized church, not unmindful of the glorious achievements of the past,—indeed, looking over the records with a degree of satisfaction and gratitude, here a field of strife and bloodshed, there a bitter controversy, but each time a glorious triumph for the right, and the hosts of God increasing in gratifying numbers,—restlessly and nervously exclaims, "There are better times ahead for us;" and like an eagle, it plumes itself for an upward flight.

G. A. Funkhouser.

#### OTTERBEIN'S HUMILITY.

Otterbein was, no doubt, a learned, good, and great man, and was so acknowledged by his contemporaries of different denominations; but it was never his desire to receive honor from man. Indeed, he seems to have purposely avoided everything which would in any way lead to worship of himself. His highest ambition seems to have been—

"To be little and unknown;
Loved and praised of God alone."

Could we now consult him, he would doubtless exhort us to employ our time in becoming better acquainted with the Lord Jesus Christ, instead of following the example of such as would canonize and worship every distinguished leader in their respective churches. Let man decrease, but let Christ increase.

D. Edwards, 1848.

## MARCH 9.

Rev. David A. Beauchamp, 1831.

MARCH 10.

Rev. S. W. Kern, 1818.

#### PRACTICAL CHARITY.

Christ asks not that our love should equal his, but that there be a resemblance; not that it be of the same strength, but of the same kind. If you would be prepared to labor for God and for souls, have charity. A result of every professed Christian possessing this love would be that the coming months would be replete in the salvation of precious souls, and sinners would flock to the fold of Christ like doves to the windows.

J. W. Lilly.

#### PIETY.

Can there be a well-developed piety in the church without a due consecration to the Head of the church? As well might we expect the earth in the regions of eternal snows to bring forth fruits abundantly as to expect to find piety in the heart frozen by the death-chill of covetousness. And how essential to Christian character true piety is! It is the vital spark, the heavenly fire of the soul. It purifies, quickens, and energizes the whole being; and its votary moves among his fellows like a living flame. In the moral world it is the true philosopher's stone, for whatever it touches is changed into gold. What, I ask in heaven's name, is more needed at the present time in the church and out of the church in our own country, yes, in all countries, than a well-developed piety among all classes?

MARCH II.

Samuel C. Kimmell 1877.

La Tive W

MARCH 12.

## POLLUTING THE AIR.

The Creator has given an abundance of free, pure air for all to breathe, just such as is needed to sustain life; and I wonder what earthly right, or any other kind of right, any one has to fill it with tobacco-smoke so that it is unfit to inhale. There is no such right. It is a grand imposition, and an encroachment upon the rights of our fellows, and if it were not for the fact that I see some well-dressed men guilty of this offense, I would call it a violation of the laws of decency and good manners. It is a deprayed interference with God-given human rights.

I. Crouse.

#### WILLING SERVICE.

Life is full of opportunities for earnest work. God asks our help for the furtherance of his plans—for the elevation of men. Not all may have the privilege of doing great things, for the greater part of life's work consists of little duties; but the high privilege of doing all these willingly may be attained by all. Pride and ambition may seek only prominent places in which to labor, and scruple not to pursue a double course to gain their ends. Such service shall not be remembered. But the tired heart that feels the common and uninteresting duties it performs scarcely worthy of the Father's notice, may joyfully remember that the proof of our readiness to work is found in our willingness to do any and all kinds of work, only so it be for the Master.

## MARCH 13.

Rev. John Wesley Etter, D. D., 1846.

MARCH 14.

#### THE DUTY OF TOTAL ABSTINENCE.

All know that the habit of dram-drinking is an evil, and that continually, and that it usually leads to the most degrading and brutal dissipation. It is evil in its tendency, both to the physical and moral man, and often brings most fearful destruction upon its victims. It has been truthfully said that intemperance kills more than the sword. It kills the reputation, the usefulness, earthly prosperity and comfort, the body and soul, and, worse than all, it kills innocent wives and children. Is it not, then, evil in its character and tendency; and should not every Christian not only touch not, taste not, handle not, but swallow not the accursed thing?

W. J. Shuey, 1859.

## THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHER'S MISSION.

The teacher's concern should not be for the safety of the truth, but for the safety of his pupils; for

> "Truth crushed to earth will rise again; The eternal years of God are hers."

But a soul lost is lost beyond recovery. Man's stay here is limited, and yet it affords the only opportunity of escaping the dangers of sin and the horror, of the wrath to come. The teacher's mission is, therefore, a holy onepointing like a prophet's wand to a better life and a better clime. In the tender, teachable, and pliable heart of the child is found soil for the seed of truth. How to sow should be the question; not merely what to sow. Sow the truth of God's blessed word. Sow the rich seed meted out by the Spirit from the store-house of grace, and sow that a harvest may be reaped for God in the eternity to come.

I. H. Snyder.

MARCH 15.

MARCH 16.

Scott Gallon ay 1849

#### THE LIFE TO COME.

We are now making up our accounts for the future. The good person lives well and dies well, and secures the highest felicity of the life beyond. Sickness and sorrow may fall to his lot here, but he knows that "all things work together for good to them that love God." There is a better day coming. Oh, how this cheers the Christian in the rugged road of life. It will be better after awhile. Joy cometh in the morning. Tomorrow we will be in the city "where they die no more," but where they "shall be like Jesus and see him as he is." No night in heaven. Forever saved and happy. Forever with the pure and good. No mother departing from her children; no children leaving the dear old home and causing bitter tears to flow. No winding-sheet, no coffin, no grave-yard there. The days of their mourning are ended. Thank God for such a home as this. Glorious future!

B. F. Booth.

#### FAMILY REUNIONS.

There is no remembrance to me so pleasant as that of the annual reunions of my well-beloved aunts and uncles, with their respective troops of cousins, at the house of my dear grandmother, of blessed memory. It was pleasant to watch the carriages (there were no railroads then) one by one coming in, laden with friends who had traveled many a weary mile to be present on the "great occasion." It was pleasant to witness the mutual recognitions of brothers and sisters, and the warm greetings of their respective wives and husbands; to observe the transports of the "little fellows" in their first meeting after a long twelve-month, and to hear their expressions of mingled surprise and delight on being introduced to the "strange little cousins," whose presence increased the number considerably above the preceding census,—all these were delightful scenes to look upon and take part in.

B. R. Hanby.

MARCH 17.

Jacob Hoke, 1825.

Ans Rettie Lenna 1818

MARCH 18. Bishop John Russell, 1799.

#### INFLUENCE OF THE BIBLE.

In a very important sense the Bible has made our turnpikes, canals, railroads, as well as the cars, boats, and wagons used on them. It has made our good houses, steam-mills, factories, ships, our trades, professions, and books. It has made our telegraph lines by which we converse with our friends thousands of miles distant from us. But these are the less important blessings it confers. Our feeble powers are inadequate to enumerate the spiritual benefits it lavishes upon us. Take from us the Bible, and with it must go the holy Sabbath, the preaching of the sanctuary, the institutions of the church, the liberties, social, civil, and religious, which we enjoy, and our HOPE of heaven.

D. K. Flickinger.

#### MARRIAGE.

Marriage! What a relationship. Ever since humanity has had a history, God has put honor on marriage. When in Eden purity, man was put in this felicitous state. It is one of the institutions—the Christian Sabbath the other—that has survived the wreck and ruin of the fall. In these two institutions, rightly observed, something of Eden is still left to us. One man, one woman, the twain made one, was God's order in Eden. It is his order out of Eden. Out of this order come the family, the home, the church, and the school. "He setteth the solitary in families." How blessed this order. Only man has a home. Beasts have dens and lairs, birds have nests, man has a home—the retreat of the heart. Home is where the heart is. Possession, wife, and love make home. This relationship is a blessing to the individual, the church, and the state. Keep it pure and the church will grow and the state is safe.

N. Castle.

## MARCH 19.

Bishop Joseph Hoffman, 1780. Rev. E. Light, 1834.

MARCH 20.

Rev. Samuel M. Hippard, 1834.

## WE MUST EDUCATE.

The world is educating, and will educate, whether the church does or not. This is the established order of the day in our nation. We can no more prevent it than we can keep the sun from shining. The young men of our day will educate. Intellectual activity and vigor are in demand everywhere—in the commercial as well as the moral and religious spheres of life. Every calling is offering a premium for men who can think correctly, vigorously, and practically. Both money and position are within the grasp of such men. The masses are not slow to discern this fact, and are earnestly endeavoring to accommodate themselves to it.

P. H. Wagner.

#### BENEVOLENCE.

The system of the gospel and the promises of the Bible all center in benevolence as the lines of Christian faith and practice. When we dedicate our wealth to the good of the church and the glory of God, we extract the poison from our riches and wisely register in the book of heaven that which will weigh in our favor in the final reckoning. I shall be happy in this effort if harmony can be established between the Creator and the creature. "The heavens will hear the earth, and the earth will hear the heavens." Benevolence is the image of God and the expression of his essence—the chief action of man's felicity on earth, the brightest ray of man's hope for glory.

J. W. Fulkerson.

MARCH 21.

Wera Galloway 1892.

MARCH 22.

## THE UNIVERSE VOCAL WITH PRAISE.

The universe is musical throughout. The heavens declare God's glory in songs. We may not always hear them, but there are harmonies of earth that respond to those of the skies. The melody of flowing waters, the soft music of the breezes, the gushing tide of song poured forth from the throats of myriads of feathered warblers, the lowing of herds, the bleating of flocks, in every variety of tone and modulation, have an effect of harmony to which the dullest can not be insensible. These voices and many more are laden with joys, and raise the soul to its Maker.

W. R. Rhinehart.

#### THE TEMPLE OF CHARACTER.

There is a temple "not made with hands," and it is a strong and pure human character; and when it is finished, is perfected, what a beautiful temple it is-its foundations of truth, its pillars and walls of strength, its door-posts and doors of gentleness and temperance, its windows of transparent purity whiter than snow and cleaner than wool, and its spires of faith, all shining with resplendent luster in the sunlight of God's love and favor. It is more charming to the eye of God than the temple called Solomon's with all its surpassing glory, the temple "exceedingly magnifical," or than the star-lit orbs that scatter their gold-dust of light from the firmanent by night. It is more valuable to its owner than the palaces of kings and the temples of the gods all piled together and their dazzling splendors wrought into one, the magnificence of which would excel all past architectural beauty; yea, more than the stars, were they so many huge, sparkling diamonds. Many such temples adorn this world to-day; and while there are in this world many beautiful things that charm the ear and eye and heart, they are its chief and crowning beauties.

R. Rock.

MARCH 23.

Prof. Henry A. Thompson, D. D., LL. D., 1837.

MARCH 24.

Rev. Solomon Voneida, 1809.

#### THE BIBLE.

All its precepts concerning all things are right. Where else will you find such a code of laws? And it is true that the word of God enjoins nothing but what is right toward God and man. It condemns falsehood, deceit, dishonesty, - everything, indeed, that looks like hypocrisy and false dealing. What a heaven truly below we would have if every man would "love God with all his heart and his neighbor as himself." It would close up every rum-hole and every gambling den and every other vile den. It would make every bushel measure thirty-two quarts, every yard thirty-six inches, and every cord one hundred and twenty-eight feet. There would be no strife between labor and capital, for every employer would give a fair day's wages for a full day's work, and every employe would give a full day's work for a fair day's wages. And so we would have no panics, no bribed legislators, no bought judges. The universal observance of Bible law would bring about such a state of society, such righteous dealing between individuals, communities, and nations as the J. Dickson. world has never known.

#### ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES.

In nature, as in religion, we come first to the outer court, then to the holy place, and lastly to the holy of holies. In the innermost sanctuary of nature we stand face to face with God, and for such a revelation we are are not meet. No doubt Adam was granted a direct, immediate apprehension of the determining, governing principles of nature. To him God brought every beast of the field and every fowl of the air, and whatsoever Adam called every living creature that was the name thereof, and that name corresponded with the nature thereof. Adam apprehended then directly the inner relations of nature. With the loss of his first estate went Adam's exalted privilege; and now we may approach the tree of knowledge of good and evil in the midst of the garden only as we approach a meetness for immortal life. Only as we regain what man lost in the fall may we know aught of the hidden life of nature. In short, man is morally incapacitated for a direct revelation of the ultimate force in nature. Even nature, in its constitution and economy, bears record to the fact that the highest scientific attainment is inseparably bound up with religious knowledge and moral holiness, or likeness to God, the author and upholder of E. Light. nature. 98

MARCH 25.

Rev. Z. A. Colestock, 1824.

MARCH 26.

#### RESPONSIBILITY.

Men are born unto responsibility. It is not a question whether they will assume it or not. They may choose their pursuit in life, but often in God's providence they are led into positions and have burdens put upon them which of themselves they would never have selected. Men often find occasion to bless God for thrusting them into places whither of their own accord they never would have gone, and demanding of them work which they never supposed they could perform. Providence puts this responsibility upon us for our good and the good of the race. We may weaken our powers so as to unfit us for the accomplishment of the work, but we are none the less held to the obligation.

H. A. Thompson.

#### REALITIES OF HEAVEN.

We are too apt to content ourselves with vague ideas of the glory of heaven. Half our thoughts are lost in a kind of dreamy uncertainty, as if the bliss of heaven were only true in part. But it is real. Yes, it is real in a degree far above anything we call real here; a real heaven, a real place, a real home, and a real happiness, deeper, brighter, and more lasting than was ever known on earth. Here in this land of shadows we often sit weeping among ruins, like melancholy Marius among the heaps of Carthage, calling back things that have died only to see them die again. But cheer up, my friends, there is a home for you where no ruins are, a land of ever-increasing delights, where fields are green and flowers never die. There, on the banks of that beautiful river, you will see and know your loved ones who have gone from you. In that pure, blessed world will be life without death, day without night, beauty without blemish, bloom without decay, youth without age, meetings without partings.

I. Weaver.

Treeman, P. Shaffer 1908

MARCH 28.

#### CROSS AND CROWN.

The cross consists not simply in the prayers we may offer, nor in the Christian experiences we may relate, nor in the money we may give to the church, but more in our willingness to suffer with and for Christ. If we can afford to be persecuted for righteousness' sake; if we can afford to have all manner of evil spoken against us because of our separation from the world; if we can deny ourselves of all worldly pleasures, and find in Christ and his religion our chief joy and comfort,—then have we assurances of a better inheritance over the river.

J. L. Luttrell.

#### THE CHRISTIAN HOME.

There ought to be more good books and good papers and good music in the home. You say the boys do not care for books and papers. You have not tried to suit their wants or to teach them the treasures of literature. Try that. Get them good books. It is a shame, it is a sin, that many Christian homes have so few good books and such a small amount of periodical literature. There ought to be music in the home. Have a singing-class. Get an instrument of music, no matter how humble it may be. Have a piano or organ or dulcimer or flute. Have some instrument of music, and get a teacher to start the boys and girls to play. There is many a burden of sorrow and weight of pain and oppressive care which can be lightened by a song. There is many a lonely hour that can be made cheerful with music. There is many a joy of the heart that can be sweetened and broadened by dividing it with the family group in song. We plead for more music in the home.

J. W. Hott.

MARCH 29. 10 1 3 m marchen MARCH 30. Janny 6, 1874 103

### THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

I call upon every one here to do what he can under God to crush out this infamous wrong. I call upon every boy to pledge himself to total abstinence, that he himself may be safe from the dreadful effects of drink and lend a wholesome influence to others. I call upon every young lady to refuse the attentions and hand of any and every young man who drinks, that she may save herself from the shame and degradation of a drunkard's wife, and help make drinking-habits appear as low and despicable as they really are. I call upon every young man to shun these dens of iniquity as he would shun a yawning hell, that he himself may escape a drunkard's end, and bless society with a total-abstinence life. I call upon every person to discriminate against it, to give no influence or patronage to the accursed business. I call upon every voter to make it an issue at every election, until whisky-drinkers and liquor-dealers will shame to ask the suffrage of respectable people, and until prohibition, universal and complete, shall be proclaimed. I call upon every Christian to wage au eternal war against this curse of curses, until it shrinks back to its native hell, no more to blotch society or damn immortal souls. In the name of all that is near and dear to you as Christians, I urge you to crush out this baneful evil. In the name of thousands of happy homes it has blighted, I urge you to bare your arms and strike down the withering blight. In the name of thousands of noble wives whom it has worse than widowed, I urge you to espouse their cause and dethrone the monster. In the name of tens of thousands of precious children whom it has worse than orphaned, I urge you to redress their wrongs and destroy the curse. In the name of social order and family joys which it has trampled down and destroyed, I urge you to rise up and wipe out this accursed blotch. In the name of our republican institutions which it has usurped and sought to destroy, I urge you to vindicate the right and destroy this traitorous evil. In the name of our holy religion whose altars it has torn down and whose communicants it has decimated, I urge you to rest not till this child of hell is driven back to its native home.

D. N. Howe.

## MARCH 31.

Rev. John A. Crayton, 1829.

Giving is an essential part of the Christian religion from beginning  ${f to}$  end.

John Goodin.

If a man has sense he can always get a congregation, and it will take sensible preachers to convert the world.

Jacob Bachtel, Jr.

If a man is a Christian he has two characters to support, a moral and a religious character; and his religious character can not stand good in the estimation of men unless his moral character is well supported by his own good conduct.

William Davis, 1836.

What noble work the women of the different churches are doing in the missionary cause! We have great reason to thank God for the past; and rich hopes and bright prospects for the future loom up before us. What great encouragement to do, when such great successes crown the feblest efforts.

Katie P. Beatty.

If there ever has been a period in the history of our country when the true friends of Christ should be awake to the cause of Christian education, this is the time. The church should fully prepare herself to confront the devotees of darkness and sin by giving her youth the advantages of a good education, that her sons and daughters may prove more than a match for the opponents of truth.

W. C. Smith, 1870.

What God could have done is not our province to decide. One thing, however, is certain: He has, in many cases, converted a solitary sinner in the wilderness, without outside agencies, through which as instruments the way was opened for the gospel. But, as a general rule, he sends his missionaries into the remote corners of the earth with the command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," and when he has a particular work for an individual to perform, impressions are made upon his mind to that effect.

Samuel Huber

# APRIL.

#### REMEMBER HIM NOW.

Remember in youth thy Creator and King, In thy vigor and strength some kind offering bring; Oh, sing of his mercies, with loud voice and strong, Sing praises to him to whom praises belong.

Remember him *now*, lest in vague coming years, Dark days of adversity, sorrow, and tears, Like untimely frosts upon autumn flowers fair, May weaken thy voice and thy memory impair.

Let thy presence and love chase the shadows away From homes where the wretched and desolate stay, And wipe from the little child's eyes the sad tear, Who lovingly trusts thy brave heart in its fear.

Consider the skill, the great wisdom, and might, Seen in works of creation, which dazzle the sight, The splendor of planets, the order and grace In which they revolve, held suspended in space.

Let nature and science and scripture, combined With the structure of man and all things of that kind, Be topics of converse, of pure sober thought; Thus the hand that created shall not be forgot.

Julia C. Elwell.

#### SPRING.

It is so much pleasanter in the sunshine, amid the warbler's sweet songs, to contemplate our mercies and give to God a tribute of praise for his great goodness to the children of men. O sweet Spring! type of resurrection, we welcome thy return. In thy absence many poor and destitute ones have suffered greatly. Heartless old Winter has pinched, bitten, shook, chilled, and even killed many, which he could not have done hadst thou been here. And as we say good-by to old Winter, we welcome thee, sweet Spring. Now that Spring is here and all hearts are joyous, let none forget that ere the leaves unfold and the flowers bloom, or even the grass shoots forth, we may be gone.

J. L. Luttrell.

#### THE VALUE OF BOOKS.

As the wholesome viands of a liberally laden table tempt and satiate the appetite, so the volumes that laden the shelves of the library lure and aid the mind in its pursuit of knowledge. And as the mind is superior to the body, so, if we are diligent in providing food for the latter, much more diligent should we be in making suitable provisions for the wants of the former. It is impossible for us to estimate the value of books. Think of this world as it was five hundred years ago! Not a printed book—only a few musty manuscripts, and they in the hands of the favored. Now, thanks to the printer's art and to the public library, the masses have access to the literary treasures of the world. By the aid of books we live over the lives of great men of former centuries. We think their thoughts, we fight their battles, we are familiarized with their virtues, and we are inspired to more noble endeavors by learning what they accomplished under less favorable circumstances.

I. L. Kephart.

APRIL I.

Rev. Thomas J. Bauder.

APRIL 2.

President D. A. Mobley, A. M., 1853.

Edward P. Chris. 1860

#### BROKEN RESOLUTIONS.

He who fritters away his time in making vows and forming high resolves, but failing to execute them, is breaking down the strong towers of moral strength with which God has surrounded him, and will be like a city whose walls have been scaled by the drifting sands from the desert or leveled by the storm-king,—without a defense; for his destruction is as certain as it will in the end be complete. Step by step he is drawn into the vortex. All that is left to him is the power of resolving again. Faith now in himself and in his resolutions wavers, gives way, and the wreck is complete. In every profession and calling of life this work of ruin, in a degree, is being wrought.

E. B. Kephart.

#### BUT ONE PERFECT HOUSE.

No man has ever yet built a perfect house. Whoever builds sees, when he has done, where he might have improved his work. The last temple was forty-six years in building, not because the edifice was so great that such outlay of time was required for its construction, but because changes and additions were made from time to time. So cathedrals and churches, palaces or humbler homes, alike undergo changes because the builders were never able to construct a faultless house. There is but one perfect house, the "house not made with hands." The house itself is "many mansions." It is ample in its provisions for all disciples of the Lord Jesus. Its foundations are precious stones, its twelve gates are each a massive pearl, and its streets are transparent gold. The house needs no change, for it was made in infinite wisdom.

D. Berger.

APRIL 3.

S. Ab. ti

1871

APRIL 4.

#### THE INFLUENCE OF ONE ACT.

We talk of little sins. But there are no such sins. We never know the result of a single act. What seems to us a little thing may be fraught with the direst results. The deed of a single hour may determine a man's destiny for all time, and that will settle it for eternity. Judas by a single act set in motion a train of forces which have never ceased to work. A single grand act has made a man immortal. By one deed the betrayer of our Lord has rendered his memory infamous, and consigned himself to everlasting wretchedness. Let the deeds of our lives be well considered.

H. A. Thompson.

#### A CHRISTIAN.

It is a wonderful and at the same time a glorious thing to be a Christian; to be in the flesh and yet not of the flesh; to be in the world and yet not of the world; to be human and yet partake of the divine; to be on earth and in heaven; to live among men and commune with God; to walk on earth and walk with God; to live on earth and live in Christ; to talk with men and talk with God; to die and yet live. Oh, blessed, glorious state! And all this comes by the gracious influence of the spirit of Christ. It is no great matter for a man who has the spirit of Christ to exchange worlds. He has in him all the principles of a saint in heaven.

J. Weaver.

APRIL 5.

Rev. Matthias Ambrose, 1810.

APRIL 6.

#### HOME TRAINING OF DAUGHTERS.

Our schools look well to the intellectual training and furnishing of young ladies, so that they shall lack nothing in their educational equipment for life. But the question of home training, moral and industrial, mental and physical, in the foundation of good habits, in refinement, in economy, and in a practical acquaintance with all household duties, is deserving of even greater attention than that of mere school instruction and discipline. Indeed, education in the schools finds its best groundwork where the mother's training has been most thoroughly and wisely done. Education can be of but little practical value without a knowledge of every-day home affairs and duties. Our girls should be taught to cook and to do all manner of house-work with "neatness and dispatch." They should be taught to sew neatly and to mend their own clothes, to beautify and keep tidy their rooms, and, in a word, "to do all those little things which make the mother, the wife, the daughter a power in the nation." They should be taught that there is something more than the mere tinsel of life to love and labor for. They should be taught that dress and airs are as nothing in the balance with a true, earnest, womanly life.

M. R. Drury.

#### CHRISTIAN LOVE.

Christian love is aggressively kind. It does not wait to be acted upon, but acts from itself as a central sun. It not only sits in the house with benignity, but goes out into the streets and by-ways to bless. It is gentle compassionate, and courteous, without respect of person. Upon the beggar and president it bestows their due. On the abandoned and virtuous it sheds like the sun its influence. To the slightest as well as to the favorite it gives sympathy. It may be called good manners to be courteous only to equals and superiors; but it is true Christianity to be courteous and kind to all persons and things. Rowland Hill said, "I would give nothing for that man's religion whose very dog and cat are not the better for it." It makes men kind at home and abroad, to beast, to servant, and to man. A heart filled with such an element can not be shut up in a house any more than a mountain can be contained in this room. No one church or country can hold that heart; but it will go out to the isles of the deep and to the lands of the heathen; and into the uttermost and lowest parts of the earth where man is found will it descend and live in active love. It is love in kind service that is leavening the world in righteousness, and will leaven until "the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose." W. M. Beardshear.

APRIL 7.

Rev. Halleck Floyd, 1839.

APRIL 8.

Bishop Wm. Hanby, 1808. Prof. George Keister, A. M., 1847.

#### TO THEOLOGICAL STUDENTS.

The secret depths of personal piety, the mystic potency of a personal call, the desire to do something for God and goodness must still supply motive power, rugged strength, and the genius of unearthly victories. Culture is dearly bought if obtained at the expense of courage and native impulse; and how much more so if living faith in God and unfeigned love for man are also sacrificed! While, then, we are expected to study men and the world, let us not neglect our individual character toward God. If we should feel an inclination to turn aside to the small gratifications of time, or turn away to the meager things of the world, let us ask ourselves if it was for these things that we fought the holiest struggles of our life; and if we feel that any subtle blight is settling down upon the state of heart that led us into the ministry, let us fly from it as from the presence of death. We should see to it that this deep individual sentiment between our souls and God, watered by grace, forced to strike deeper its roots by storms and trials, and blessed already, it may be, with some early fruit unto God, may be maintained the central and presiding force over all the elements that Providence has ordained for the progress of the kingdom of Christ. A. W. Drury.

#### PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY.

Christianity is to be known not only by what it is in the Book, but by what it is in the life of its friends,—not its pretenders, but its real friends. The great mass of men judge the Christian religion in this way. We do not know that the Savior intended it so; but he knew it would be so. Hence he enjoins, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." We do not know that Paul meant it so; but he, too, knew it would be so. Hence he says, "Ye are our epistles, known and read of all men." This seeing good works and reading good lives has a wonderfully convincing power. Unfortunately so many pick out the worst, not the best, type of Christian life, when they are looking for fruits. Could we have every Christian just what he should be, just what religion requires and helps him to be, we would not object to this method of judging. Or if we were allowed to select out the best specimens of Christians in the country, we would not object. But, we repeat, men are not used to doing this. Now if men are thus seeing us and reading us, how important that we shine with a clear light! How important that we present a clean epistle for their inspection! J. Dickson.

APRIL 9.

Mary & String : 100 -Threcherick C. Hahm. 1959

APRIL 10.

#### THE HARVEST.

Gather the grain with thankfulness. Richest blessings demand a return of praise, pure and holy. We can bring nothing so acceptable to God as a thankful heart. There is nothing more hateful to Heaven than an ungrateful spirit. We can not make a return to the Lord full and equal, but a thankful heart will renew the blessing of God on the harvest, and gladden the, reaping with songs. The harvest is the Master's richest bestowment; it is the life-gift to the whole race. It is food and clothing; the bread with which the hand of God feeds the hungry. From every harvest-field, from every garner and barn let a song of thanks go up to God for every returning harvest.

J. W. Hott.

#### HUMILITY IN THE STUDENT.

This is a rare grace, and should be diligently sought. It is both an ornament and a strength wherever found. No vice is more offensive to God or distasteful to man than inordinate self-esteem. Our best and most reliable students are always humble and teachable. All teachers know this, and often speak of it. An overestimate of either our natural or acquired abilities is not only offensive to good taste, but a great hinderance in the acquisition of knowledge. Hence all thoroughly educated people, and especially sincere Christians, feel the importance of guarding against this weakness. True, to confess our want of information respecting some particular subject may not be the most flattering to our pride; it may indeed tend to mortify and humble us. But in this we will be the gainers; for, in fact, this humiliation is the very thing needed to prepare the mind to receive instruction. We are sure at any rate that this is God's method in making us wise unto salvation.

L. Davis.

APRIL II.

APRIL 12.

Rev. Lydia Sexton, 1799. Rev. Leonidas S. Cornell, 1842. .

Kathorine Briest.

#### THE INSPIRATION OF THE UNSEEN.

The world to-day is taking its inspiration largely from the thoughts of a better clime. It is the power of an endless life which always has and always will make itself felt upon the individual consciousness of the human race. There will be a future life. Kant held that the practical reason demands a future world and a judgment-day. The soul of man demands also a life of immortality in that world. Sin continues to-day, but there will be a time when it shall be overcome. There will be an even-tide when all shall be light. Atheistic science may predict one golden age after another, picturing them with all the grandeur and beauty vivid imaginations can produce, but Christianity will continue as it has in the past to guide men into the way of everlasting life, which leadeth up to God.

I. W. Sneath.

#### FACTORS IN CHRISTIAN MISSIONS.

The prayer of faith at some time and in some way must be answered, and will be. This is a part of the legacy left to us by our sainted dead. Some have left us money consecrated to missions; and I am not sure but that the most precious legacy is the prayer of faith they left with God for the success of that work. These prayers are in the keeping of the Holy Ghost. They prayed for the conversion of the world, and believed it would come. The ten days' prayer-meeting at Jerusalem may have resulted in the separation of Saul and Barnabas to the great work upon which they entered. Many good people have little money to give, but they are and have been rich in faith and prayer. These they have given out of their full hearts. Men, money, and the prayer of faith are divinely recognized factors.

Z. Warner.

APRIL 13.

APRIL 14.

121

#### THE SPRING-TIME.

The birds are coming again with their spring-time songs. It is said that St. Francis called them his brothers, thinking that in some way they were spiritual beings in flesh, and praised God in the forests even as the angels praise him in heaven. Surely their songs ought to remind us of the love and praise due our Lord from our hearts and songs. With the opening spring and its joys let every heart put on a new joy and every tongue learn a new song of praise. To many of us this is the last spring-time till we come to the opening of the eternal summer.

J. W. Hott.

#### THE PROMISES.

The promises are outlets of the fountains of grace, and are the streams that "make glad the city of God." They are anthems from the harp of heaven. They are "the music of the river of life washing its shores on high and pouring in cascades upon the earth." They are precious morsels from the banquet-table of heaven, and strewed along the pathway of life at every step to lure us to our Father's house. They are heaven-lamps, hung out by the hand of a loving Father, to illumine our way across life's dark and stormy sea, to inspire us with courage, faith, and hope, incentives to persuade us to virtue, and celestial lights to dispel the darkness of doubt, fear, trouble, sorrow, afflictions, trials, losses, bereavements, and to rob death and the grave of all their terrible gloom. And, blessed be God, they are everlasting.

R. Rock.

APRIL 15.

APRIL 16.

#### SHUN THE EDDYING CURRENT.

There is room enough in the moral universe for motion on a mighty scale. Already there is a great distance between an infinitely pure God rising upward infinitely, and the devil who has been sinking, yes, flying downward for a long time. Do you hope we can step over the line? You would better not say so to your boy in the hour of temptation. It might suggest the wicked thought to try it. It might prove a source of weakness. I once stood by a small water-fall. The water fell ten feet. It did not make me tremble as I looked down. Last summer I stood as near as I dared and looked over the falls at Niagara. As I looked at the boiling mass beneath and listened to the roar, it made me shudder. It makes me breathe quicker now as I think, What if I had lost my balance? Tonight I have brought you in thought to the Niagara of sin. It is not a fall of ten feet with a bath-tub at its base. A dark, angry flood is beneath. ready to swallow us up. Dare any one try his strength in that eddying current? Don't do it. When the bridge of human life gives way may we all be safe, far, very far removed from that yawning chasm.

R. J. White.

#### CONDITION OF SUCCESS.

Had we millions of the most learned, eloquent, and holy preachers in christendom to send forth, and all the funds that could be asked or desired to support them, all would be in vain unless the power of the almighty Spirit accompany our labors. While, therefore, we labor with unwavering perseverance for the conversion of the world, while we raise funds with growing liberality, while we select, instruct, and send forth the most devoted missionaries we can find, let us remember that all will be unavailing unless the Holy Spirit accompany and give energy to the means employed. He that planteth is nothing, he that watereth is nothing, but God that giveth the increase. Oh, it is sweet to the believing heart to lean on God, to plead his promises, and to rejoice in the assurance that though man can not do it by reason of his weakness, he with whom all things are possible, and who can not lie, has promised that the whole earth shall be filled with his glory, and that he is able and faithful to bring it to pass. In earnest prayer for the Holy Spirit's influence every one can unite, and every tear in the closet, every prayer in the heart over those who are dead in their sin, every prayer lifted up in retirement where no eye sees but the eye of Him which seeth in secret, afford a most important means of entering in at the open door of opportunity. J. J. Glossbrenner.

# n P Eagles 1824

APRIL 18.

Hallie Dails 1949 Wried Schalle 1867 La

#### POLITE CHILDREN.

A simple "Thank you" to your parents, to your brothers and sisters, to any from whom you receive any form of attention or favor, for the slightest acts performed, for a question answered, for a hundred nameless things, will tell greatly upon yourself, in making you more gentle and refined, and encouraging a proper self-respect, and in the estimate of others for you. If once you acquire the habit of saying the words, they will come easy, and you would feel embarrassed at the thought of having omitted to express your obligation for a favor. To cultivate the habit of being polite you should address your mother and sisters and all in the home circle as you would address strangers toward whom you desire to be particularly well-behaved. When the habit of constant politeness is well established at home you will be easy in society, and escape a hundred awkward embarrassments to which young people are subject because of their defective training in the home.

D. Berger.

#### WINNING SOULS.

To win souls to Christ implies vastly more than winning them to our opinions, however correct they may be. It implies more than winning them into our church. It implies and includes the winning of the heart, with all its affections, to Christ. Otterbein and his coadjutors insisted that a vital union to Christ was essential to a true Christian character. Take this vital force out of the church and you will have nothing left but lifeless forms and ceremonies. The church of the living God is a living church, with a living ministry; and the life of this living church comes from the quickening energy of the Holy Spirit upon the heart of each individual member of the church. Am I right when I say that winning souls to Jesus is the great work of the Christian ministry? To save souls Jesus came all the way from heaven to earth, suffered in Gethsemane, died on the cross, was buried, rose again, ascended to heaven, and ever liveth to make intercession. To save souls the Holy Spirit was given, the Bible was given, the Church was organized; and men are called to devote themselves exclusively to this work. Do not these facts teach us something of the importance of soul-saving? Show me a minister who is not yearning after the souls of the people and I will show you a man who was either never called to the ministry or has lost the spirit of a true minister I. Weaver. of Jesus.

APRIL 19.

E. M. Oummins. 1857.

APRIL 20.

Rev. D. W. Sprinkle, 1843.

#### FALSE STANDARDS.

Many souls are ruined by false standards. Whenever conscience is denied, just in that proportion is the moral nature vitiated and driven to shame. The succeeding violations will be easier, and less and less withstood. All the avenues to the heart should be kept clear of defilement. Forty cents on the dollar may satisfy man's law, but common honesty demands one hundred cents on the dollar. It may do no good to condemn those who have been unfortunate in speculation, and have lost other people's money; but if the course were condemned, as it should be, a standard would be erected in society from which men would fear to go. When the day of white lying and whitewashing of character shall have ceased, then will come the dawning of the millennium upon the world.

T. D. Adams.

#### MINISTRY OF SORROW.

Many of the most honored examples of purity and of benevolent and efficient labor have been schooled, chastened, and taught to virtue through privation and disappointment. Not only this, but they have lived their lives through shadows, and have performed their labors from hearts whose sadness was unuttered and unutterable. It is largely by experiencing toil and suffering, by our internal struggles and trials, by the woe and darkness in our souls, by our conscious feebleness and utter want, that our hearts become softened and tendered toward man and lifted upward toward God, by which we are fitted for an existence and a work in the kingdom of love.

A. W. Drury.

#### APRIL 21.

Rev. George Plowman, 1813. Rev. John R. Brown, 1815.

APRIL 22.

Prof. Daniel Eberly, A. M., 1834.

#### CHRISTIAN PERFECTION.

The relation of freedom from sin to entire sanctification, the relation of a perfect Christian to a Christian that is perfected, has much similarity to the following relations: A dangerous disease may, through the skill of the physician and the application of the proper remedies, have been happily overcome; but this is not yet complete restoration of lost health and strength,—though we are not to forget that the first must take place before the latter can be accomplished. A student may entirely withdraw from all other occupations, and devote himself never so fully to his studies; he may, in short, be a perfect student, and yet be far from being a scholar, an educated man. Yet, undoubtedly, he must be the former before he can become the latter.

J. Doerksen.

#### MISSION AND MOTIVE.

"Into all the world" and "every creature" bounds the mission of the Christian church. All lands, all continents, to be visited; all classes, all races, to be discipled. The injunction is, "Go." For this there must be a fitness—a spirit corresponding to the injunction. The bare injunction itself would never have made the first ministers of the New Testament dispensation go, much less those of a later time. But there came into the souls of these embassadors an agonizing yearning to do what had been commanded. Redemption's cry had reached this world, and they wanted to voice it. The spirit of a brother yearning for a brother's salvation had come into the heart. Wild seas and rugged continents imposed no barriers to the accomplishment of this divine mission upon the part of its adherents. Love impelled the going.

N. Castle.

APRIL 23.

Rev. Wm. K. McDaniel, 1823.

APRIL 24.

Rev. Alexander Biddle, 1810.
Chilose Lavis Storm 1866

#### THE NEW BIRTH.

In the spiritual birth man receives all the graces, powers, and perfections of the Divine Father, as does the child of natural generation all the functions of the human father. Now he is a child, perfect in all his moral and spiritual make-up; only let him go on to perfection, not in receiving new graces or qualities, but in developing those bestowed in the new birth. And upon the principle that face answers to face, in the water, so grace answers to grace in the soul. Every holy desire in the human soul is planted there by the Holy Spirit. God never promotes a desire for which the requisite amount of grace is not pledged. Thus it is that grace answers to grace. All is by the favor of God.

J. L. Luttrell.

#### DECIDING TO ENTER COLLEGE.

A college-life means years of study and an expenditure of money, with no income. It is a preparation for a wider field and a more prominent position in the future. But Business calls and opens up her gates, and invites the young man to enter. The almighty dollar is held up to his admiring gaze, and its virtues extolled by its votaries. Better get money. He can make this, as others have done, without special culture. Why this delay? Enter the lists at once and contend for the prize. Happy is the young man who remembers there are more desirable things even in this life than the getting of money. The chief aim of man is not to get rich. God's purpose in man's creation is not met by the handling of a few thousand dollars. Even if this is all, he sees that a good, thorough training will help him to get it. But he is alive to all money-value, and he must look after himself. A first-class, well-developed human being is of infinitely more value in God's sight than millions of dollars.

H. A. Thompson.

APRIL 25.

B. F. Snoke.

1841.

APRIL 26.

Rev. C. Flinchbaugh, 1799. Rev. John Morgan, 1801.

#### CONSECRATED MEN.

The men, who, recognizing the call of God, have responded to it, have become the brightest lights of the world, the pillars of the church. What advancement the church of Christ has made during the struggle of the centuries she owes great chiefly to these consecrated characters; those who made her welfare their first, last, and only thought and theme. It is such who are now her most efficient workers, her trusted counselors and leaders. The hope of the church of Christ to-day is not in wealth, not in her prestige, nor in her millions of votaries, but chiefly in her consecrated men. The church needs and must have more of such men—men not only ready to step, ere long, into the places of those who are now upon her walls and manning her fortresses, but also prepared to fill the new posts demanded by the lengthening of her cords.

L. Bookwalter.

#### SYMPATHY.

See the disconsolate, sorrow-stricken soul, his mind entirely absorbed in contemplating the wretchedness of his lot. While he is brooding over his misfortunes, with his face buried in his hands, and the anguish of his heart finds expression in sobs and sighs, a friend approaches and seeks the cause of his distress. With tearful eyes he relates his sorrows. Ere he has half told his story the tear of sympathy starts and mingles with the tear of sorrow. Fitting union! How precious to the sorrowing heart! How soothing to the unfortunate to know that there are those who are moved by their distress, and can pity as well as counsel! One has truthfully said that the tear of sympathy robs sorrow of half its pangs and is a healing balm to the wounded heart. It diverts the mind from the misfortunes and ills of life, and leads it to the contemplation of the tender and noble affections which dwell in the bosom of man.

Henry Garst.

APRIL 27.

APRIL 28.

Mrs. Mary Ann Sowers, 1816.

## FRUITS OF HOLINESS.

Wherever holiness is permitted to enter it is like a neat housekeeper,—first cleansing the house from all pollution, and then placing everything in the proper place. It places the affections on Christ and heavenly things, regulates the passions, sets reason on the throne, places the world under foot, and brings the whole man into complete subjection to the will of God. This is order. This is true beauty. This is the beauty of holiness.

D. Edwards.

# THE MINISTER AND EDUCATION.

He is in good position to look out young people for college. The young are not always awake to the importance of education. Glittering gold too often dazzles their eyes. A number wish to go to school but lack foresight sufficient to attain the object desired. Others are discouraged by friends, and need judicious assistance. The minister who is a wise master-builder can render these obstacles surmountable. the world's leading scholars went to college through the suggestion of others. One of the best moments of a one's life is when a friend says to you, "I owe to you that I went to college." The parent often needs instruction as to his obligation to give a higher education to his children. Many parents do not know fully the claims upon them for a complete culture of their offspring. Other parents do not think it will pay. worth of it must be reiterated to such. Still others are unwilling to make the sacrifice of educating their children. These can be led to a more complete consecration. As a teacher of the family, the minister can en-In love he can convince and constrain them to the lighten the parents. discharge of duty.

APRIL 29.

APRIL 30.

# THY WILL.

Weary in body, sick at heart, I came
And sat me down beside my lonely door;
And to myself,—I had none else to tell,—
With many tears, told all my troubles o'er.

The good I strove to do has turned to ill,

My fairest gifts 'neath careless feet are thrown,

And those to whom I gladly gave my all,

Pass coldly by—let me walk alone.

I longed so much to be a helper here,—
To write my life-page with no blot or blur,
And now—it is so hard, so hard, I cried,—
In all the world I have no comforter,

And then a presence in my door-way stood; I felt a touch upon my bowed head, And heard a voice like music, soft and low. O troubled one, it is my will, it said.

Thy will! And is it thon, dear Lord? I cried;
And thou hast seen this bitter hurt of mine?
And thou dost care? Ay, I have seen and cared;
My heart is pierced with every wound of thine!

Thy will, not mine, then, Lord, I softly said,
And of a sudden life was fair and sweet;
Abiding peace came to me in that hour,
And in his strength my strength was made complete.

Maud (Mary A. Share).

# MAY.

# A MEMORY PICTURE.

Among the pictures on the wall Of memory's enchanted hall, Is one a brook portraying, And in the forest by its side, Or wading in its limpid tide, Myself and sister playing.

A steep hill rises near the brook, Up which we clambered once to look For some prized sylvan treasure. Wild berries growing on its crest Repaid our eager childish quest In those dear hours of pleasure.

Through all the mists of vanished years
Upon that picture still appears
The glow of life's glad morning;
Earth's purest light with rosy sheen,
Each innocent and happy scene
In youth's fair vale adorning.

The babbling brook flows as of yore; But on its verdant banks no more I'll stray as in days olden; And nevermore that hill-side climb As in the one sweet summer-time Which wears a halo golden.

Since then the bonds of helplessness Have held in silent, sad duress The feet that blithely wending Their way in paths ne'er trod again, Unconscious of long years of pain And weariness impending.

But in the land more fair than day
From bondage free I hope to stray
By life's pellucid river;
The sunny hills of heaven climb,
And through God's balmy summer-time
Range joyfully forever.

Jennie Wilson.

#### ON GIVING.

To give is one's duty so long as he expects to receive. While God gives us life, limbs, action, sense, and the proper use of all these, it is as much our duty to give as it is to walk, to talk, to work, to eat, to sleep, to breathe, to pray, to live. While God continues to give to us, we are bound to give to our fellows. For this he gives that we may give to others. Not to give while God gives to us is as wicked as it would be to refuse to walk one rod out of our way to relieve suffering humanity. "God loves a cheerful giver." That is enough for me. I want no greater joy than to have God love me.

Henry Kumler, Jr.

## GIVING OPINIONS.

Of those who give opinions to the world it ought first to be said that they should be honest, noble in nature, earnest for truth, and of patient, verifying habit. The heart has much to do in making the opinions. In given palpable cases, of course, men could not believe otherwise than they do. But by magnifying or diminishing the credibility or importance of data, by using doubtful premises in their full force and afterward losing sight of the element of doubtfulness, by bringing up something apparent to offset a serious argument, in many cases by unblushing perverseness or willfulness—by one or several of these means or methods the mind has almost complete control over its beliefs.

A. W. Drury.

MAY I.

Rev. Thomas M. Hamilton, 1822.

g. J. Cha en 1837

MAY 2.

Edwin C. Eagles, 1867,

# AN ETERNAL WEIGHT OF GLORY.

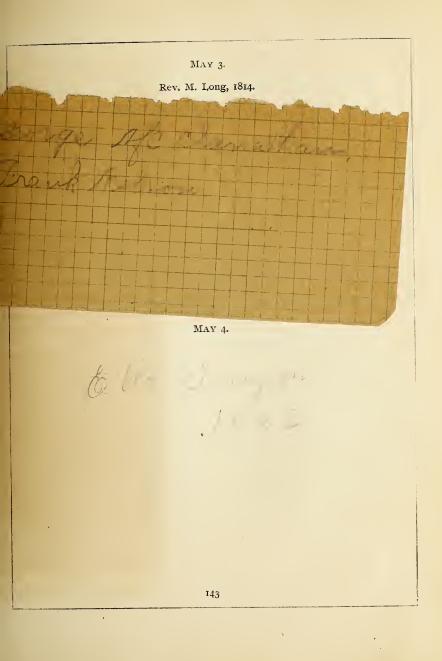
We walk now at times in the brightness of unclouded faith, for God throws sometimes the brightness of glory into our cloudy experience; but when the eternal weight of glory bursts upon us amid the unsetting stars and suns of the upper sanctuary, then the soul's deepest and finest feelings will break through every restraint. And as we range over heavenly ground or are seated with Christ upon his throne, this glory with its everlasting fullness will stream into the feelings and out of the feelings. A resemblance between us and Christ is now begun, and the full revelation of the heavenly weight of glory will complete it; for we now become better and better, and all the time repeat Christ's character more and more in ours. I plant my hope on no narrow grounds, but from the fact that this glory is so great that our strongest feelings cluster around it, for that reason the salvation of a single soul outweighs the material universe.

F. Riebel.

# THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MOTHERS.

It seems to me there is no greater responsibility on earth, in any one capacity, than that which devolves upon mothers. To them is committed the welfare of the whole human family. The future of the life that now is and that which is to come of all the inhabitants of earth, in all ages, rests in a greater degree, and to a fuller extent, upon mothers than upon any other and all other agencies combined. How few young mothers have any just conception of the responsibilities that the sleeping babe has brought. The mother looks down into baby's innocent face and her heart yearns with a strangely sweet tenderness and a hitherto unknown love; and she presses her jewel to her heart with the low cry, "All my own! my precious darling!" This, perhaps, is her highest thought and the source of her greatest joy. Personal ownership of the dearest and best gift of God! She may lead and guide that precious life to the light and into the way of life and up to the heights of glory. No other hand can do this so surely as can a mother's; on no other rests the responsibility as upon her.

Mrs. Emily Day.



## THE PREACHING FOR THE TIMES.

The times require candor, plainness, and earnestness in the pulpit, and the laying aside of all unnatural airs and intonations. Nothing is more disgusting to sensible men than to listen to a man who shows in his pulpit efforts that he is more anxious to display himself than to display Christ and his truth. The minister is not most truly eloquent and impressive when he is so deeply interested in his subject as to be utterly oblivious of himself, and of the opinion that his audience will form of his effort. He who, fully impressed and imbued with a sense of the importance of the truth he is about to present and an intense desire to win the hearts of his auditors to that truth, goes before the people leaning by faith on the arm of the Master, will not fail to be eloquent. This is what gave the inspiration to Christ's discourses; this is what made Paul so truly eloquent before Agrippa and in the midst of Mars' Hill; this was the secret of Wesley's popularity; this gave Whitefield his power over the masses.

I. L. Kephart

#### SUCCESS.

How shall I make life a success? is a question thousands of young men are now asking themselves. When a young man has fixed the right standard of success the next thing is to know how to reach it,—what kind of helps he most needs and where to find them. If money-making were to be his standard then he ought to go to the Rothschilds, the Girards, the Stewarts, the Vanderbilts. They could give him many sound lessons in the art of money-making. If he is seeking renown, let him consult those meteors that have blazed athwart the sky of nations. If he seeks it in mere mind-development, let him consult the oracles of literature, past and present. But if he will have the noblest success, one that has the divine approval, and reaches out into the eternal ages, let him consult the inspired word and the best types of intelligent piety he can find.

I. Dickson.

MAY 5.

Bishop David Edwards, D. D., 1816.

Burley, Skaffre 1893

MAY 6.

Rev. Samuel J. Graham, 1839.

## THE PRECIOUS PROMISES.

The promises of God are the Christian's Magna Charta; they are Heaven's own bonds, issued by the authority of him whose name is Jehovah. Heaven and earth may pass away, but every promise, to the last word, will be fulfilled. God is immutable and can not lie; he is abundantly able to do all he has promised. The whole Trinity is pledged to fulfill every word that has been spoken. No music is half so sweet, no eloquence is near so charming, no picture is at all so attractive, as the precious promises given to us by the faithful and true witness.

I. Weaver.

## TRUE CHARITY.

Charity is the "bond of perfectness." It gushes in the fountain, runs in the rill, floats in the stream, and rests in the deep. It grows in the grass, blooms in the rose, waves in the grain, and ripens in the abundance of harvest. It moves in the breeze, rides in the lightning, and thunders in the storm. It rises in the vapor, appears in the cloud, and falls in the shower. It cools in the shade, warms in the sun, and twinkles in the stars. It is high as the everlasting throne, wide as the universe, and deep as human woe. It lives in the Christian heart, glows in his countenance, sparkles in his eyes, and flows in his tears. Oh, Thou art the fountain of all charity.

Wm. Davis.

Hutter Starter 1903-1

May 8.

# TO THE YOUNG.

Youth is the best time of life to adapt oneself to whatever business we may propose for our maturer years. The man who wants to acquire an education wisely begins young. If he wants to learn a trade he begins young. If he wishes to enter a profession, or acquire a fortune, wisdom says begin young. Why should this not hold good in religion? It does hold good; and he who aims at extensive usefulness in the cause of Christ must begin young. How noble and praiseworthy to see the young abandon the pleasures and fascinations of a giddy world and give their best days and their best powers to the cause of virtue and truth.

D. Berger.

# FRUIT OF THE GOSPEL.

The humane institutions of the world are the products of the gospel of 'Christ. Go to those countries where the life and the gospel of Christ have not touched, and you find none of these humane institutions, systems of law, and asylums which anywhere in Christian countries ameliorate the sorrowful condition of the unfortunate of the race. These benevolent and humane institutions are the pride and joy of our land and the honor of the world. Christ's heart of love as it throbbed and loved and labored and suffered for men has touched the hearts of men in all Christian lands, and these institutions have risen in the garden of God, bearing their manner of fruits, while their leaves are for the healing of the unfortunate of the nations.

J. W. Hott.

MAY 9.

MAY 10.

Rev. Henry A. Snepp, 1830.

#### LABOR.

The Master offers you a million times more than just wages,—wages and a gift which cost the heart's blood of the Son of God. Labor honestly; the Master's eye is upon thee. Labor incessantly; the enemy is very busy. Labor vigorously; the enemy is strong, the human heart is stubborn, the trees of corrupt habits have thrust their roots deep, very deep, into the very fruitful soil. Labor patiently; so does your heavenly Father; so did Jesus of Nazareth; so you will inspire confidence in your sincerity, honesty, earnestness, consecration, and general motives. Labor lovingly; God is love. God in the heart fills it with love. Love sweetens all the bitterness which grows out of labor, and the opposition of Satan and the wicked. Labor faithfully! Doubt and failure are related as parent and child—as cause and effect; faith and victory are similarly related. Go now and labor faithfully till death, and you shall have a crown of life.

J. K. Alwood.

## ENTHUSIASM.

It creates talent and force, overcomes difficulties, and converts foes into friends. Many ministers are weaklings while they ought to be giants. Some seem to think that Christian humility requires that they should be spiritless; that they should be negative creatures. As far as I have been able to conclude from reading the biographies of men eminent for their piety and great services in the Christian church, such men have been persons in whom self has been the center about which crouch powerful feelings, but who have made their wills and their entire nature subject to the will of God. Such men will always be a force. But how can the ministry and the laity be awakened to a sense of their strength and of their opportunities? The answer is, principally by contact, by association. Next to the life-giving influence of the Holy Spirit is the dynamic touch of a soul that is itself thrilled with life. It is said that great spirits are generally found in clusters. Some colleges never send out any men of mark. Others, in certain portions of their history, send out scarcely a single mediocre. Some classes are made up of young men of rare intensity of spirit and boldness of conception. The character of the college president or of some member of the faculty, or of one or more among the students, might indicate the source of its intellectual life.

A. W. Drury.

Augun, E. Schmann 1868 Am H. E. 1867

MAY 12.

#### THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT.

Deep piety is an indispensable qualification for success in superintending a Sabbath-school; and nothing else can be substituted for this. No talents, learning, or tact can fill the place of the love of Christ. It takes religion to teach religion. To lead the pupils to Christ,—and this, after all, is the great work of the Sabbath-school,—we must have the spirit of Christ in our hearts. Should not special prayer be offered for the superintendent and teachers of our Sabbath-schools, as well as for our ministers? A school governed by an empty-headed, light-minded superintendent accomplishes but little good. The children come to be amused, or to "have a good time" together, but they are not religiously benefited. A really godly man, who earnestly labors for the salvation of the children, has a glorious field in which to work for the Master, and will see the fruit of his labors year by year.

D. Edwards.

# THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CITIZENSHIP.

In a democratic government every man is, to a degree, a politician. The people govern themselves; that is, they choose by their own election who shall make and who shall execute their laws. Either immediately or remotely, every citizen has a voice in saying who shall be state or national legislator, judge, governor, or president. First, then, it is the duty of every Christian to be so far forth a politician as to go regularly to the poles and vote. He may not, as a good citizen, -and a good Christian as well,-shirk this responsibility. He owes to Cæsar what is due to Cæsar. As a citizen of this country, he owes it to himself, to his fellow-countrymen, to posterity, to truth, justice, order, and to God, to take so much interest in public affairs as to contribute his vote-if he be allowed a ballot, as happily all are in this country,-to the support of such men and measures as according to his best judgment will do most to conserve the welfare of the state. It ill becomes a man, especially a Christian, to profess too great piety, and to be so heavenly-minded that he will not exercise the elective franchise.

W. McKee.

MAY 13.

MAY 14.

#### WHAT RUM DOES.

How much of domestic sorrow has been brought about by the use of wine. What a dark picture does the picture of Ahasuerus present. The noblest woman in the realm dethroned and divorced. The king himself is conscience-smitten and sleepless. Tens of thousands of women, from India even to Ethiopia, tyrannized over and trampled upon by brutal husbands. Such are some of the sad objects to be seen in the foreground, while in the background stands the demijohn. Nineteen out of twenty divorces in our country grow out of rum. Nineteen out of every twenty family quarrels grow out of rum. Nineteen out of every twenty womanly hearts trampled upon and crushed by brutal husbands have been trampled upon and crushed because of rum. Rum is the key that unlocks hell and lets the burning liquid out to desolate this world of ours. O rum! what hast thou done?

S. A. Mowers.

# HEART-KEEPING.

The source of all badness, or of all goodness, is in the heart. Sin can only be conceived there. It can not come into life without first being conceived in the heart. A truly good man's life will seldom contradict his heart,—never permanently. The rule is, that if the life is wrong the heart is wrong. Judging the heart by the life is philosophical. The life is never better in God's view than the heart. The heart as a fountain must be kept pure. Jesus said, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." "See God!" Yes. It was sin that struck the union between God and man in the garden. Sin and holiness can never have fellowship. The heart is a garden of rarest flowers, and must be kept free from the growing weeds of corruption. The fruits of the Spirit are to grow here. They are of very delicate life, and must be kindly cared for.

N. Castle.

MAY 15.

MAY 15.

MAY 16.

Rev. J. W. D & Long - 1852

# MEMORY'S TREASURES.

What, then, are memory's treasures? You will agree with me that the mother's devoted and unselfish love should take the first place, and that because of its rare luster it is justly cherished by memory. Oh, those early days! Oh, that tender, loving heart! And then that friend or those friends who helped us into spiritual life. Memory recalls the scene vividly. And then there are those in the wider fields whose lives are so beautiful and grand that they seem to tower above us like the peaks of the Alps tower above their neighbors—names that stand for all that is good, pure, and beautiful in this life; names with the fragrance of summer flowers; names that somehow seem to be only half earthly, that connect themselves with the unseen realities of heaven, so that we can hardly think of heaven without thinking of them; names that are connected with Christ both here and there, so that we can say with new meaning, "The memory of the just is blessed."

S. W. McCorkle.

# THE PALM-TREE.

Along the way grow the stately palm-trees, towering up toward the clouds. As these trees grow up to maturity they cast off all their surplus limbs. While small, the body is covered with them; but as the tree grows up they are dropped off. The top of the tree is a crown of leaves. The center limbs point straight up toward heaven, and the fruit hangs in clusters about the crown. Every month in the year fruit can be gathered from this tree. I saw slender vines that could not support themselves cling to and twine themselves about the trunk of the palm-tree, and thus they raised themselves above the earth. Though the palm-tree is so high, and the fruit at its very top, when it is fully ripe it drops it to the ground, and the smallest child or the crippled beggar can gather and eat or sell it. What a type of the true Christian is the palm-tree! As he grows he throws off his loose and bad habits. He rises higher and higher. He drops his blessings for others. The weak may cling to him. But a wicked man will not benefit others. He is vile and dangerous.

J. Gomer.

MAY 17.

MAY 18.

Rev. G. L. Gilbert, 1821.

# PROVIDING FOR THE YOUNG.

The church must provide for its young people the proper means for their best culture, or means not of the best character, and not tending to the best culture, will be provided for them. There is no limit to the amount and variety of worthless and vile literature that is not only placed in their reach, but by every available method thrust upon them. Ministers, Sunday-school superintendents, and teachers can do much to save the young from evil reading and help them forward in the way of gaining solid intelligence; and it is a duty they can not well set aside.

D. Berger.

# HEAVENLY ATTRACTIONS.

Is there nothing in the thought of heavenly things; nothing in the thought of the bright and loving spirits you once knew on earth, who have gone to live in the heavenly city, and who now from its golden portals are watching to see you come; nothing in the thought of a city large and magnificent, whose maker and builder is God, whose golden streets are lined with fragrant flowers that never fade, and thronged with conquerers who never weep, toil, or suffer, and with "immortal blood throbbing in their veins know not how to die;" nothing in the thought of this bright land where every eye sparkles with joy, every cheek blooms with health, every heart quivers with the rapture of peace, and "every finger-tip touches harps of gold, whose silken strings never felt the twang of woe?" O man immortal! O woman immortal! is there nothing in the thrilling thought of these bright, grand, glad, eternal things to attract your affections, lifting them from the perishable things of earth?

L. R. Jones.

MAY 19.

MAY 20.

#### FIRST DUTIES.

Self-preservation is said to be the first law of nature, and self-salvation may well be called the first law of grace. Self-preservation from temporal want, danger, and injury, and self-salvation from sin, its guilt, pollution and dominion, are the first duties or laws of our being. And there is no conflict whatever between these two—that is to ssy, no necessary worldly interest needs to be neglected to be a Christian, nor need any religious duty be omitted to be a worldling so far as it is necessary to secure what is needful. By the observance of these laws we secure present and future happiness, and the neglect of them brings certain disgrace and suffering. He that does not provide for his physical wants will suffer hunger and cold, and ought to; he that does not provide for his intellectual wants will suffer as an ignoranus, and ought to; and he that does not provide for his spiritual wants will suffer as a sinner, and ought to.

D. K. Flickinger.

# SEPARATION FROM THE WORLD.

Many Christians fail to witness effectually for the sufficiency of Christ and his religion to satisty the hungerings and thirstings of the soul by going back to Egypt too often to get a mess of enions, leeks, and garlic. This fact is a great stumbling-block in the way of mankind. One important design in keeping Christians in the world is to teach people on this point, practically, not to labor for the meat that perisheth. But suppose the church is just as fond of the party, the dance, the rink, the horse-race, the theater, the opera, of cards, and the novel as is the world? Why, she is powerless to do the world any good in the way of saving it. She has lost her savor. Christians are bound to show by their conduct that they are actually satisfied with the enjoyments of religion, without the pomp and vanities of the world; that the joys of religion and communion with God keep them above the love of the world. The ship may be safe in the sea, but there is no safety when the sea gets into the ship. People will not go aboard a ship even half full of the sea, neither will they go in large numbers into a church full of the world. There are too many of God's people living out in the world, and too many of the world are in the church.

R. Rock.

MAY 21.

- Jec-

MAY 22.

#### THE CHURCH'S COMMISSION.

"Go teach all nations." Tell them "God so loved the world that he gave his Son" to die for them. Tell them that I was rich, and for their sakes became poor, that they might be rich. Tell them all about my sufferings in the garden and on the cross. Tell them that I was buried, and on the third day arose again. Tell them that a fountain is open for sin and uncleanliness. Tell them that all things are ready. Tell them—tell every one, rich and poor, high and low, noble and ignoble—that I came all the way from heaven to prepare a way whereby they might be saved. Tell them that I have gone to prepare a place for them; that there are mansions and crowns for them in my Father's house. Tell them that I will come again, and bring all the holy angels with me; then all who have loved me and kept my commandments I will receive up to glory.

# THE WAYS OF THE INFINITE.

God carries on his work by agencies which insure great strides of victory. God's methods are natural, and therefore we too often think of them as necessarily slow in their process. This is a delusion. agencies are often the most startling in their activity. A nation is born in a day. Peoples that were not rise up and confound the mighty. Flashes of flame from the throne of God smite down his enemies. His love, like the sun on the winter scene, melts all into tenderness, and nations lie gentle in his formative hand. The conquests of the great God and his Christ are phenomenal and miraculous. The agencies employed may appear inconsiderable, but they are weapons mighty through God in pulling down strongholds. We see poorly only the human side of God's work. In our blindness we seek to rein up the events of God's ages to the capabilities of apparent means. We err greatly. God strikes a music too fine and exalted for our dull ears. He employs arms of flesh which have in them nerves of steel which are unseen. Men die and fall out of the ranks of toil, passing into the home and rest and personal dwelling with God, but the great work goes on. "God buries his workmen but carries on his work."

MAY 24.

Bishop D. K. Flickinger, D. D., 1824.

Robert Cowden 1833

# THE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE.

Here the youth may be led through all the intricate yet necessary paths of knowledge by instructors who delight to, sometimes, turn aside from the beaten path of investigation and direct the hungry soul of the student from nature up to nature's God; to so shape his instruction that while the student is absorbed in the wonderful formation of the rock, the beauty of the flower, and the grandeur of the stars his "other soul" is drawn toward the infinite wisdom that fashioned these things. Here daily prayers ascend. Here daily counsel and kindly admonition are given. And so the youth is guarded through his college-course, that when he goes out to take his place among the struggling millions, if he has not become soundly indoctrinated in the principles of the Christian religion he will at least have imbibed a goodly share of wholesome teaching, and will have his mind open to the nobler impulses of his nature.

D. A. Mobley.

## KNOWLEDGE.

What makes the difference between the conditions of primitive man and the highest conditions of civilized man? Knowledge makes the difference. Knowledge cultivates our fields, invents our machinery, builds up our cities, and manages the affairs of government. Knowledge beautifies our homes and utilizes all the energies of nature for our benefit. But knowledge is a power that must be guided by a sense of moral rectitude or it will work ruinous effects somewhere. It may be in the management of the government municipality, state or nation. It may be in one's own private life which may be ruinous in its effects upon others and in its reflex influence upon yourself—as the life of the forger or the burglar or the defaulter. No individual is truly great, no country or nation truly prosperous unless the knowledge possessed is utilized under true moral restraint and a healthy conscientiousness of the duty of rectitude and honor.

W. H. Klinefelter.

MAY 25.

Bishop Jacob Erb, 1805.

MAY 26.

Mand Winer 1878

#### HOLINESS.

"What is holiness?" It is not a mere emotion or passion, neither does it exist in any external acts or ceremonies; but it is a moral state and habit—a condition of purity and rectitude. It is not a grace, but the assemblage of all the graces necessary to form the Christian character. It is, in a word, the moral image of God, who is said to be "glorious in holiness," and whose nature is love. The heart that is full of love is full of holiness. Yet it abors sin as the "abominable thing that God hates." Such is holiness. It is the harmonious assemblage of all the moral qualities necessary to form a complete character. In it are beautifully blended piety and peace, justice and mercy, and truth and righteousness.

D. Edwards.

#### THE MINISTRY.

This is the most sacred office in the world. In this it rises infinitely above all others. It rests on divine authority and has for its end God's glory in the return of apostate man to original holiness and favor with his Maker. This sacredness attaches to this office a certain dignity which should be understood by those who are called of God to this work, and scrupulously preserved by avoiding all conduct which is inconsistent with it. Conduct which involves the violation of no moral principle, and which may not be a reproach to other Christians, may be altogether improper in a minister. The neglect of his office for the sake of gain or the honors of men is an infringement upon the dignity of a minister as such. Any business which unfits a man for the pulpit by monopolizing his thoughts and casting a shade upon the sacredness of his office in his own mind should be firmly discarded. No ordinary obstacle should be permitted to prevent an earnest engagement in the work of saving souls.

W. J. Shuey.

MAY 27.

MAY 28.

#### PLAIN PREACHING.

If a minister does not wish to put himself on exhibition, and if he looks to the good of his hearers, he can have no reason to give the people anything else than plain preaching. We say if he looks to the good of the people; for a man with small ability and no piety may draw large audiences, and yet do the people no good. A crowd following a showy man does not decide the question of his usefulness, nor prove the unutility of plain preaching. Plain preaching, though it makes no great show, will still be the means honored of God in saving souls when the eccentric clerical fool and his foolish admirers are in their graves.

Alexander Owen.

# CHRISTIAN LOVE.

Love in man, like love iu God, moves in the same direction. It gives to faith an easy and delightful action. Working by its sweet charms it makes mighty its instrumentalities. Love constrained a host of living witnesses for the truth of Christ, in the planting of the Christian church, to give up and sacrifice their most valuable earthly goods and comforts, and to rescue the poor and degraded who were seated in the regions of darkness and the shadow of death. Love, to elevate wretched humanity stimulated its happy possessors, not even to count their own lives dear. It is now moving delightfully hundreds of self-sacrificing laborers in heathen lands to teach and to civilize and save men. Fathers, mothers, children, lands, houses, comforts, and civilization become secondary matters when love, first love, love to God and man, enriches the soul.

Henry Kumler, Jr.

MAY 29.

Rev. D. Speck, 1827.

MAY 30.

#### PERSONAL INTEGRITY.

A man of the completest integrity must be alive both to God and to man. It is as disgraceful to neglect God as it is to overlook man. Near my home in Ohio used to stand two trees. The one had a noble trunk which towered nearly fifty feet without a branch, and was graced at the top with a beautiful crown of branches, whose every branchlet and twig seemed to leap up toward the heavens to embrace the sun. The other had a strong, sturdy trunk near the earth, which extended up a few feet and then gave off circles of branches which grew out in vigorous form and turned downward toward the earth, as if eager to grasp the earth in spite of the sun. Up from these branches went a long, slender, dead, and shaft-like trunk, a resting place for every wandering bird, and the delight of the lightning of many a storm. These trees are emblems of two men. The one of a man who keeps his connection with earth, healthful and strong, that it may contribute to his crowning glory heavenward and Godward; he is alive at the top. The other is emblematic of a man who clings exclusively to earth, its treasures, and the manward side of life; he is dead at the top. He doesn't know God in life until he gets into trouble, or comes to die. The better affections of his nature are stunted, the sweetness of the finer feelings of his being are unexperienced, while heaven and God are in some unknown place, millions of miles from the earth. His trunk and his branches crouch to the earth—he is dead at the top. Personal integrity implies a good conscience "void of offence" Godward as well as manward. A man of integrity is therefore an integer. His holiness is wholeness. He has the abiding element of freshness in human character. We tire of men because they are clay patterns, and not living individualities. Such a man will not be a stagnant pool, but a living stream that gathers as it flows, and becomes the servant and joy of many. By knowing him to-day you can not compass him thereby for to-morrow, for each day pays its rich tribute to the wealth of his increase. He hangs on the whims of no one, but lives in the independence of his own enlightened judgment. Tertullus with his learning, or Felix on his throne with oue's life at stake, can not abash him. The harmony of such a life is that of many symphonies.

W. M. Beardshear.

MAY 31. **1**71

#### A TEMPERANCE HYMN.

Do you slumber in your tent, Christian soldier,
While the foe is spreading woe through the land?
Do you note his rising power
Growing bolder every hour?
Will he not our land devour,
While you stand?

Can you sleep while homes are rent, Christian soldier? Are not heavens turned to hells by his power?

Mark you not the mother's sigh? Hear you not the children's cry? See you not their loved ones die, Every hour?

Can you linger in your tent, Christian soldier?
Satan's smiling o'er your idle delay;
Thousands perish while you wait,
While you counsel and debate;
Heed you not their awful fate,

As they stray?

Let us rise in holy wrath, Christian soldiers,
Crush the evil 'neath the heel of our might!
Counting cost, no longer wait,
Forward, manhood of the state!
For in God our strength is great
For the right.

E. S. Lorenz.

# JUNE.

#### RECOMPENSE.

The night is long and dark and chill,
The threatening storm is near at hand,
And we are tired—my heart and I.
As pilgrim in a foreign land
Turns back with yearning look and fond,
So we to all that lies beyond.

We had not thought to find life thus,
We meant to walk the brighter way,
And we never have, and only smiled,
When sunlight changed to shadows gray;
But now the storm is passing by,
And we are tired—my heart and I.

But what of clouds and storm and night,
When morn's fair light again shall come?
And what of wanderings, faint and far,
When safe within our Father's home?
Life's sorrows come but by his will,
And so, complaining heart, be still.

Maud Mary A. S(hare).

# VALUE OF COLLEGE-TRAINING.

The habit of study and the mental acuteness and power acquired at college are a lasting treasure to their possessor. Indeed, long after he may have forgotten Greek roots, mathematical demonstrations, and the lettered intricacies of his old book on logic, he will yet be the possessor of that fine discrimination, that precision of thought, and that philosophic grasp which he secured in their study and recital. As he applies himself to some specialty as a life-work, he enters upon its study and pursuit thus developed and cultured. He takes hold of his work with a ready hand; and if he faithfully wields the power which he has at his command, he must succeed in a degree far surpassing the results of the lame and weak efforts of his uncultured competitors.

L. Bookwalter.

#### CHILDREN'S DAY.

One of the most sacred of the duties of the church is the care of the little ones. It is, therefore, very gratifying that everywhere throughout the Christian world increased and kindly attention is being shown to children. One way in which the growing interest in children is being manifested is in the happy influences and accompaniments of "Children's Day," a day which has its "pleasing accessories of fragrant flowers and singing-birds, of simple, gladsome, impressive services," and is now popularly observed during the early summer by nearly all Christian denominations. Wherever the day is suitably observed, great good is accomplished in enlisting the children in the work of the church, and impressing the importance of their proper care on the minds and hearts of pastors and teachers, as well as parents. No work in the Lord's kingdom will yield better returns than that bestowed on the children.

M. R. Drury.

JUNE I.

June 2.

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# KEY TO OTTERBEIN'S CHARACTER.

It was not a form of philosophy; it was not a type of theology; it was not enthusiasm. The true foundation of his devoted life and sustained labors is to be found in his deep perception of the moral contrasts presented in the Scriptures. This was the basis; other things rested upon this foundation. He saw men lost, and, by the widest contrast imaginable, beheld them redeemed. He appreciated the unspeakable difference between a soul unrenewed and a soul renewed. The difference was one of quality, fundamental character—not one of moral shading. Others were thinking of educating a new man out of the old man; he believed in nothing short of a new creature in Christ. By the aid of the Scriptures he read moral truth in its primitive courses.

A. W. Drury

# PRACTICAL PREACHING.

The salvation of the people should be the special object of the Christian ministry. The great aim of the fathers in all their sermons was the salvation of souls. Special revival seasons a few months in the year, as we have it, was not the method of the early fathers to secure conversions. Perhaps it were better to-day, instead of periodical revivals, to go back to the old method, and preach so that in all our sermons both saint and sinner might get their portion. While I am not at all opposed to revival efforts, yet I fear that outside of these special seasons our preaching is of too general a character, and has not enough of salvation in it to reach the unsaved, and, as a consequence, the religious life in many churches is of a spasmodic character. The gospel is intensely practical, and always personal in its applications.

J. P. Miller.

JUNE 3.

# Wotterbern 1726

JUNE 4.

Rev. J. K. Billheimer, 1831.

# LAST WORDS OF BISHOP EDWARDS.

As the hope of getting well and of a longer term of service became less, the spirit of Bishop Edwards expressed itself in the following utterance, which more than anything else may be regarded as his last testimony and message to the church: "If it might be the Lord's will, I would like to live to preach awhile yet. I would preach, as never before, salvation by faith alone. Oh, the church has so much machinery, and there is such a disposition to interpose so many things between inquiring souls and Christ! Oh, I would tell them salvation is by faith in Christ alone. I see this now as never before, and I would like to live and preach it."

L. Davis.

#### HOPE.

Were this affection destroyed from the human breast, men would settle down in despondency, and life itself would be undesirable, if not absolutely insufferable. Life with its attendant afflictions, bereavements, and disappointments could be scarcely endured by the most courageous and determined of human kind. Hope is the life-giving power of action and endurance. When our pathway leads through affliction and losses—even the loss of all earthly good—hope still lingers with the almost despairing one, to present the fairest side of the picture, and prominently hold up to view better things to come. When sick it tells of health, when poor it tells of wealth, and when troubled and disappointed it tells of success and happiness in the end. It keeps our heads from sinking, and impels us to renewed and more vigorous efforts.

D. K. Flickinger.

JUNE 5.

JUNE 6.
Rev. A. Helton, 1823.

#### MONEY VALUE OF AN EDUCATION.

If a college-education does not improve a man's chances for the desirable positions in life, then the number of college-graduates found in them should be in proportion to the number of college-graduates in the land; that is, if half the young men of the country go to college, then half the desirable positions in life should be filled by them. If it can be shown that less than half our young men go to college and more than half occupy these positions, then it is evident that a college-education greatly enhances a man's prospect for such places. If college-bred men attain eminence sooner than other men of like natural ability, that is of great importance in a short life like ours, and is an argument in favor of a college-course.

H. A. Thompson.

## HOW MUCH TO GIVE.

The first question a man will naturally ask himself is, What proportion of my estate should I give to religious purposes? The circumstances of people are so varied that no definite rule can be fixed. Much depends upon what a man is worth; how many children he may have to provide for and what their necessities are, and what use they are likely to make of their property; whether they are prodigal spendthrifts or industrious and economical, etc., etc. Some writer has said that the church should be made an equal heir with the rest of the children. This strikes us as a good rule, but will have a good many exceptions. Very many Christians should do more than this; some perhaps ought to do less. Every Christian should settle this question on his knees and in the light of eternity; and thus settled, we do not fear the result.

I. Dickson.

JUNE 7.

Rev. N. G. Whitney, 1835.

Is. A. Funkhouser 1841

JUNE 8.

Rev. W. M. Givens, 1827.

#### MINISTERIAL SUPPORT.

If it is right to pay any man for his labor, it is right to pay the faithful minister. He gives his whole time, talent, and strength to this work, and should receive a living support. No man can withhold his means from the support of the gospel without violating the ordinance of God, and rendering himself unworthy of a place among the people of God. Any person refusing to give as the Lord has prospered him ought to be excommunicated. He is not fit to belong to the church of Christ. laborer is worthy of his hire." So says every honest man, so says the civil law, and so says the divine law. The faithful minister is a laborer, just as much as the man who builds your houses, makes your shoes, or plows in your fields, and is just as much entitled to his pay as any other laborer. If Christians valued souls as God values them, the faithful minister would be better supported.

J. Weaver.

#### TWO CHARACTERS.

From the same family there often come two sons whose ends in life are as different as anything we can imagine. Wealth, culture, society, and paternal care have been the same; yet how different the issue. been a vessel of honor, the other of dishonor. One has become all that is lovely in human nature, the other has become all that is unlovely. Circumstances may account in part for this difference in result. instincts and tendencies may account for a part. But the condition of the heart is the most potent factor in the problem. A pure heart made one the hope and pride of those who gave him birth. An impure heart made the other the sorrow and shame of those who gave him being. The moral condition of the heart made Paul the apostle to the gentiles, made Nero the monster of all ages, made Luther the champion of the Reformation, made Philip II. the murderer of nations. "Keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life." G. P. Macklin.

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#### THE LOT FAMILY.

I would rather obligate myself to furnish a thousand Lots than one Abraham. I think I could furnish a thousand Lots without going far from home, or being long from home; but I do not know how far I would have to go, or how long I would have to be away before I would find an Abraham. The truth of the matter is, the family resemblance of the Lots has been wonderfully preserved through the long ages. He is the representative of that alarmingly large class of men who seek offices simply because they are well watered. These hordes of candidates that abound everywhere have not their hearts set so much on the good of the country as on the profitableness of the office.

S. A. Mowers.

# THE PASTOR IN THE HOME.

It is a great mistake for a pastor to stay away from the homes of his people. He should know the world in which the adults and children of his charge live. They have a world in which the natural predominates. The books, papers, associates, and business methods of that world should be carefully studied by the pastor. He is a stranger to his people and they are strangers to him if they only meet him on the street or highway, or in the place of worship. They can not feel any real helpful interest in one another because they have no more than a speaking acquaintance. In the home of the pastor there are facts that the people ought to know; and in the homes of the people there are many facts that the pastor must know if he would help them to a holy living and dying.

Z. Warner.

JUNE II.

Anden Paires 1/95

JUNE 12.

Rev. J. H. Pershing, 1847.

# WOMAN'S MINISTRY.

There are many spheres of ministry in which woman's hands may do nobly for God. It is given to her to nurture and rear the children who are to be the actors on the stage of life in the coming years. Not by force, but by the forceful, plastic hand of love touching the young and tender heart of childhood she is to guide the destiny of generations. This may be quietly in the home circle, or in the Sabbath-school, or in the social circle, as day by day the ears of children are open to her utterances, and their eyes watch eagerly her acts of love. Never was the field wider for the ministry of Christian women than now. Never has the world felt more deeply the need of the ministry of love and tenderness in opening the way for our Lord among the poor, the fallen, and those who have not known of Jesus, than now.

J. W. Hott.

# ILLUSTRIOUS EXAMPLES.

Albert Barnes has truly said, "We have most illustrious examples to imitate. They are as numerous as the drops of dew, and bright as the stars of the morning. It is an honor to tread in the footsteps of the holy men who have inherited the promises; an honor to feel that we are walking in the same path and are reaching out the hand to the same crown." Yes, it is an honor to feel that we are engaged in the same work that Abraham and Isaac and Jacob were engaged in. We are living, as it were, in the presence of these immortal spirits. Like sentinels from their lofty seats in heaven, they are watching with intense interest our journeyings through life. Oh, how sad, after having such illustrious examples to follow, that we should become slothful and indifferent to our best interests, stray out of our proper course, and wander away from God into the deep, dark mazes of sin and unbelief, and at last know what it is to suffer all the pangs of remorse in the world of woe; know what that worm is that never dies, and that fire that is never quenched.

R. E. Williams.

JUNE 13.

Rev. Daniel R. Miller, 1835.

Mas Mi do. Bill 1848

JUNE 14.

Rev. Samuel Mills, 1831.

Mrs anna 6. Russell 1858.

#### CHILDHOOD.

If there is on this earth one thing beautiful beyond all others, above all price, and before which the grandest efforts of the most skillful artist fade into insignificance, it is a little child. We may examine its physical frame and learn how "fearfully and wonderfully" it is made. We may consider the intellect which it possesses, and which only needs to be properly developed to become one of the greatest forces in all the universe. We may think of the moral nature with which it is endowed, and which if guided aright in its unfolding shall make it a companion for angels; if warped and injured, shall bring curses and sadness upon all its associates, and everlasting mysery upon itself. We may reflect upon all the capabilities which are in that little body, and that need only the magic word to cause them to spring into life and beauty. No matter from what stand-point we look at it, there is nothing so beautiful, so precious, among all created things.

H. A. Thompson.

#### GET AN EDUCATION.

No matter if you purpose to be a farmer, a mechanic, a merchant, and not to go into any one of the special professions. You will be a more intelligent farmer, a more skillful mechanic, a more successful merchant, for having first acquired a good education. No matter if you, as a young lady, do not propose to be a teacher, a doctor, a telegraph operator, or to follow some other pursuit requiring special training and skill. your purpose to settle down into domestic life. Well, that is just the very noblest sphere you can fill, if you qualify yourself to fill it nobly. And to what an elevation and dignity is the domestic life lifted when noble, cultured matrons preside in the household. Some duties will still be drudgery. And there is no calling or profession in life that has not some measure of drudgery. That is an inevitable incident to human life; it can not be wholly escaped. But even drudgery itself is raised up to something of dignity when persons of elevated character perform it. And over all the family life there will glow an increasing radiance when culture, intelligence, and religion brings to it their treasures.

D. Berger.

JUNE 15.

Bishop John Dickson, D. D., 1820.

anice R Spill 19.02

JUNE 16.

#### TRUE RELIGION.

That service of God which has largely an eye to gaining esteem among Christians, or to winning popularity among men, is not the true service of Christ. That service that looks to itself as a means of gaining wealth, or earthly possessions, is not much better than the piety which would fain learn whether there are good mill-sites on the river of life. The true service of God is not mainly inspired with a desire to win even spiritual happiness here, or bliss in heaven, though valuable incentives these may be. It serves not from mere duty, but from loved duty. It loves the will of God, the worship of the Lord, the service of Christ. It delights to please the object of the heart's great love. It delights to do good. It rejoices exceedingly in promoting Christ's kingdom. It finds ecstatic bliss in magnifying the name of the Lord.

M. Wright.

#### THE CRY OF THE NEEDY.

The women I want helped—helped to a broader view of the duties of Christian women, helped to a realization of the blessings and opportunities of a gospel land, helped to a glimpse of the misery and degradation of the millions of women who are in heathen and pagan lands, and the high privilege of being co-workers with God. I wish we could hear the words of the poor Nile woman who, when the missionary told her of our lost state as sinners and of God's love in Jesus, looked up and pitifully said, "Why was I never told this before?" and that other sentence of India's daughter, "These locks have grown gray waiting to hear this news." Many will never hear, and many have waited long and are waiting now because we are so tardy. Read those wails again, until they burn into your souls. Who are to help?

Lillie R. Keister.

JUNE 18.

Nova Blanche (Gallonary Starkey 1880 Ernest Dale Stenler. 1889

#### COMMUNION.

Sometimes Jesus passed all the night in prayer. These were seasons of lone communion with the eternal Unseen. In this, Jesus has shown the world the only way by which man can sustain a great life, which in spirit and temper and deeds rises into the divine. Whoever looks carefully at the life of Christ, his doctrines and teachings, his behavior among his enemies, his unparalleled opposition to every sin, and his undisguised, ceaseless love for the sinner, must wonder where lie the sources of such a life. In its development the power to sustain such a life was in his communion with the Unseen. Our ability to live like him must be derived alone from long communion with the same divine and heavenly Father. The reason why we do not more fully represent the character of Jesus in our character and life is because we spend so little time in communion with him.

J. W. Hott.

# THE SABBATH.

The Sabbath has always been a monumental day. Among the patriarchs it was the standing monument of the work of creation. Among the prophets and priests it was a constant memorial, both of God's creative work and of the giving of the law. But when the work of redemption was finished, the great sacrifice offered, the commemorative character of the day was doubled. Conjoined with these two great events is a third and greater to be held in everlasting remembrance - the redemptive work of Christ. Indeed, so prominent is the commemoration of the latter that it has almost wholly crowded the others out of view. Creating man was a great work, but redeeming him was greater. not unnatural, therefore, that the latter and greater should thus overshadow the former and less. It is altogether natural, too, that the church should hallow and keep the day whereon the greater work was consummated. In accordance with this natural law the day in which Christ rose was henceforth called and kept as the Lord's day.

D. N. Howe.

JUNE 19.

Rev. Peter C. Hetzler, 1833. Rev. H. J. Becker, 1846.

JUNE 20.

#### A PLEA FOR EDUCATION.

Would you leave a rich legacy to your children! Then educate them as much as you can. No investment of money or labor will pay better in the end. Would you make home pleasant, the abode of social virtue, and those around you happy, educate; it will promote feelings of kindness and respect toward parents while living, and veneration for their memory when dead. In vicissitudes, in sorrow, and in joy, or in wanderings far away, it will cause them to look back to the home of their youth as a sacred spot, or as to a flower in the desert, and as a star to guide in bewilderment and toil. Would you rectify and regulate their hearts by principles of probity and honor, and remove them from the temptations of the lower vices—educate. If you wish to adorn the mind with an increasing knowledge of God as Creator and Ruler of the universe—educate.

H. G. Spayth, 1848.

#### HOME READING.

To have a home there must be a supply of good reading. With the educational advantages of our day the majority of children get what may be called a literary appetite; and if the parents do not furnish the means to gratify that appetite, the young people will furnish it themselves. Unfortunately, they often make a bad selection, and their reading is worse for their morals than no reading at all. I have often been astonished and chagrined in going into families to find so little of this mind-food when there were abundant means to provide it. The stomach and the purse seem to be the household gods of a great many people. What a shame and a reproach that so many are spending their means in luxurious living, fashionable dressing, feathers and jewelry, tobacco and beer, and the minds of their children, as well as their own, dwarfed and degraded for want of books and newspapers. To have a home in the true sense we must value the mind more than the body.

J. Dickson.

JUNE 21.

Rev. Caleb W. Witt, 1808.

Elder Stoner 1892

JUNE 22.

Miss Edna Wernoss 1842.

# GOD IN EVERYTHING.

Child of God accept the fact that thy God is in every event of thy life; that there is not a single occurrence which can be attributed to chance; that not a single misfortune can befall thee without his notice or permission; that there is a "needs be" for all the afflictions and disapointments and trials through which thou art called to pass. "Oh," said an eminent saint, "what a pillow is this 'needs be' on which to rest an aching head!" What we know not now concerning God's providential dealings with us, we shall know hereafter,—"when the mists have cleared away."

J. Hoke.

## THE MOTHER'S DEVOTION.

She will do more for her child than any stranger will do. If her child is stricken with disease, she watches over it day after day, and her highest pleasure is to do anything at all that can contribute to its comfort. She knows no weariness. Her spirit is ever watchful, and her muscles seem to be iron. She is always ready to get anything the suffering one calls for, and even to stay by its bedside and anticipate its wants. You can not persuade her to leave it alofle. You who have mothers know how this is. You remember the past. Why is the mother thus devoted to her children? Because she has a mother's nature and a mother's love. God foresaw the trials of her situation, the labors of her lot, and mercifully gave her such an undying love for her infant that it is even a joy to suffer for its sake.

Alexander Owen.

JUNE 23.

1. s. s. M. = . 1. 3. 1873.

JUNE 24.

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#### GOD'S BATTLES.

All who are living pure and true lives; who are loyal to God and duty—are fighting God's battles. The farmer following his plow and the senator in Congress, the faithful mother teaching her child the way of life and the learned professor in his chair, the little rag-picker in the streets as well as the woman of means who endows a college, all are alike fighting the same battles. No matter how high or low in life may be our station, how pleasant or disagreeable the work in hand, whatever we do, provided we are in the line of duty, we are fighting for God. All such work is honorable. All occupations in which this can be done are noble. All others, however high in human estimation, are dishonorable, and not to be engaged in by those who seek God's help.

H. A. Thompson.

#### WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE.

Quietly, and yet steadily, a sentiment in favor of woman-suffrage is growing in this country, just as it has been growing for years past in Great Britain. Perhaps in that country the sentiment is strengthened by the experience of the results of woman's influence in government, the two most brilliant and prosperous periods the country has ever had having both been under female sovereigns, Queen Elizabeth and the present reigning queen. In this country the sentiment has gained force from the prevalent belief that if women voted there would be hope of counteracting and ultimately destroying the fatal saloon-power. In about a dozen of our states the ballot is already in the hands of women so far as relates to the election of school-boards, and in a few of them for all voting pur-Many of the most enlightened and progressive citizens of our country support the principle as just and equitable, and it seems quite probable that at no distant period this intelligent and most virtuous half of our American citizenship will be granted all the privileges that are now given without limit to the ignorant, the vicious, and depraved, of the other sex.

D. Berger.

JUNE 25.

JUNE 26.

## IMPORTANCE OF RELIGION.

There is no way to get on with the race without religion. The world can not be governed successfully without a public conscience. There is no public conscience when there is no religion. If Christianity were left out of account, then infidels would have to get up some religion which would create a public conscience upon which to govern the world. Could they ever do so well for the world in furnishing a religion as Christ has done? Are not the obligations to extend the influence and dominion of Christianity incumbent upon all. There must be a religion. It is wise to take hold of the best, and the all that is Christ.

J. W. Hott.

# EARLY CONVERSIONS.

Many of the most influential and steadfast Christians of to-day came to Jesus when children. "Many of our most learned divines and most devoted and useful Christian ladies date their conversion to the early age of three, four, five, and six years." Over a century ago President Edwards wrote the life of Phebe Bartlett, who was converted at four years of age. She lived sixty years afterward, and never doubted her conversion nor gave occasion for others to doubt it. In the Bible there are mentioned Moses, Samuel, Samson, Solomon, Jonah, David, Daniel, Timothy, and others who were in their youth converted to the Lord. In the early history of the church are mentioned Honorius, the great Theodoret, Aldric, bishop of Mans, Paul the first hermit, and Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna, who when called to die a martyr's death, said that he had served Christ eighty-six years. And so a large number of zealous and able Christian workers might be enumerated down to the present time, who when young were brought to Jesus, converted to his love, lived exemplary Christians, and died in the triumphs of Christ.

W. M. Beardshear.

JUNE 27.

JUNE 28.

President G. P. Macklin, 1850.

#### PASTORAL VISITING.

It brings with it a conscious satisfaction—a peace of mind which no other work insures. A day thus spent brings an evening of bliss and a night of sweet repose. It secures the feeling which always succeeds a faithful discharge of duty. It furnishes food for the mind, original thought, fresh and invigorating. Cotton Mather looked upon this work as laborious as any in all his ministry, but set a great value upon his pastoral visits. He not only did but got good in his conversations with all sorts of persons, and thought he never walked more in the Spirit than this walking to his flock, to serve and seek their best interests.

W. J. Shuey.

#### THE BEST KNOWLEDGE.

Our Sunday-schools are designed to impart a treasure of divine knowledge, to enlighten the intellect, as "the entrance of thy word giveth light." The memory of youth treasures up the "light," and it becomes pure, healthy material for thought, and is finally transmitted into like character. This kind of knowledge is more worthy than any other to become part of the eternal furniture of the mind; it is the highest, the profoundest, the most inspiring. The heart is also improved by this means. "Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee." The word of God reveals to the heart its sinfulness, and at the same time it awakens a desire for purity. The heart full of God's word will send forth a living stream to bless the world. What gives light to the intellect and leads to purity of heart will elevate and regulate the life. The word of God is the blessed code for the guidance of human life.

J. S. Mills.

June 29.

Rev. David B. Sherk, 1837.

JUNE 30.

I have no objection to barrels, jugs, and bottles, if they be properly used, and are not made to hold the inebriating poison.

W. R. Coursey, 1839.

There is nothing more pleasing to me than to see young men in the bloom of life break the ranks of the enemy and enlist in the service of Christ.

Matthias Ambrose.

Some people expect to do something for God and the church before they die; and some are thinking of leaving a few dollars in their wills for the missionary cause. It would be well to bring our alabaster-boxes and break them before we die.

George Sickafoose.

The Bible is not only the oldest, but the best book in the world. The matter, the end, the harmony, the success of the Scriptures, together with their wonderful preservation, character of the writers, accomplishments of their predictions, should convince as of their divine authority.

J. Markwood.

Our religion is the daughter of heaven, the parent of our virtues, and is the only permanent source of happiness. Religion alone gives lasting peace and felicity. She diverts the mind from all corroding cares, she implants substantial joy, and sheds a heavenly radiance in the breast.

L. S. Grove

The duty and business of the minister is to instruct others in the way in which they should go. But how can a man teach others that which he does not know? In religious experience and practical piety he should always lead the way, and be able to say with the apostle, "Follow me as I follow Christ."

E. Van Demark, 1837.

If strong drink dethrones reason, the designs of Heaven are thereby perverted, and man, the noblest work of God, becomes a debased, polluted, and polluting wretch, incapable while under its influence of enjoying the rich feast of rational enjoyments which the gospel spreads before the real lovers of rational piety.

John Morgan, 1837.

## JULY.

### POSTHUMOUS PRAISE.

Why not give the true their just meed of praise. In their hours of care and their toilsome ways? Why not bless their name and inspire their heart? Fore their hands grow faint and their feet depart?

And the tokens rich you expect to give When your friends are dead, give them while they live. The kind words you'd say when your friends are gone, Speak them now in life; they will help them on.

And the flowers you'd spread o'er their graves when dead, Scatter now in life on the paths they tread; It will cheer their hearts and illume their way,— It will nerve their arms for the battle's fray.

For 'tis better far that their graves be bare— Not a rose to shed its sweet fragrance there— Than their lives should none of your flowers share, Aud they fade and droop and the shadows wear.

Let your marks of love be no fainter now,— Place no fewer wreaths on the sleeping brow; Speak and think no less of your precious dead,— Plant no fewer flowers on their lowly bed;

But strew more, still more, in the paths of life, In the rugged way and the battle's strife; Break your fragrant box on the living head,— Speak your words of praise ere your friends are dead.

Speak thy heart to them of a deed well done, Of success achieved, of opinions won; It will help them on in the way so drear, It will cheer the heart and dry up the tear.

D. N. Howe.

## THE TEARS OF JESUS.

They teach us that we should take Jesus with us to the graves of our friends. And what is a tomb without Jesus? It is a place of gloom and darkness, a place of bitter regrets, of painful recollections, of overflowing tears. Go alone to the grave and it is a hopeless place. Go in company with Jesus, and hope and resurrection and life spring up to gladden the heart and revive the spirit. Do you, like Martha and Mary, make these sad pilgrimages, sometimes, to the graves of your loved ones, to weep? Like them, take Jesus with you.

S. A. Mowers.

#### WOMAN'S DESIRE FOR AFRICA.

The hope of the civilization of Africa is with the children. Our missionaries acknowledge that with adults the power of wicked habits has become so strong that it is almost impossible to make any lasting impression upon them, but that the children taught in their schools, and converted in childhood, make genuine Christians. We wish to send them schools,—not one, but many here and there in different villages,—that the children may be taught to read as ours are taught. If we can do this, the next generation will not be heathen like this one; for if they can read they will have the Bible. And where the light is, darkness flies away.

Mrs. D. L. Rike.

July 1.

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July 2.

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## PLAN IN DIVERSITY.

Dr. Guthrie once said that God did not plant the forests with trees and strew the fields with flowers according to the classifications of the botanists. A similar remark might be made of the manner of the distribution of the precious things of the divine word. Yet, as the botanist finds in Nature's promiscuous profusion the most beautiful principles of order, so in the rich wealth of the Bible the Bible-student finds a plan whose far-reaching comprehensiveness embraces the entire realm. The impress of the same mind is borne on every page, its grasp is upon every thought, and a grand and perfect plan extends throughout the whole.

D. Berger.

#### THE HIGHEST MOTIVE.

The highest motive that can incite any being is the desire to glorify God. This all-refined and all-refining motive subdues and controls all passions, and raises the soul far above their control. Going out after God, intent on his honor, the soul becomes forgetful of self and self-gratification. Selfishness is lost in the boundless, blissful ocean of eternal love. This induces benevolence of action. As God is moved by pure benevolence in all his actions, the soul wedded to him and pervaded by his all-engrossing presence is moved in the same way. The greatest of all treasures is the moral state and heritage of the soul whose supreme pleasure is in the glory of God.

J. K. Alwood.

JULY 3.

JULY 4.

Rev. Benjamin F. Booth, 1839.

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#### HEAVEN ON EARTH.

Heaven the eternal abode of the omnipresent Jehovah, and the everlasting habitation of his saints and angels! Heaven the resting place of our departed friends, who are now living in light and glory inaccessible to mortals, Oh, how I long for thee! But stay my soul in thy longings after a future heaven at present. Mayest thou not now enter into heaven, the heaven of spiritual rest in Jesus? In this heaven of faith in Jesus we have all the elements of our future heaven. In this rest of faith in Jesus we have our future heaven begun—our future heaven will be our present heaven perfected.

L. Davis.

#### WORK FOR WILLING HANDS.

When the ravens brought no more flesh and the brook dried up, it became the honored privilege of woman to give food to the great prophet who should afterward ascend up into heaven in a chariot, whose wheels rolled in fire. To some it may be only a handful of meal and a little oil in a cruise; but when the command of the Lord is obeyed the barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruise of oil fail. Did not Esther deliver her nation from death? To her it seemed like presumption to go into the king's presence, but with her, as with us, when in the strict line of duty the king will hold out the golden scepter, and we may draw near and touch the scepter. The woman that broke the alabaster-box of ointment, pouring it on the Savior's head, scarcely realized the greatness of the act she performed. But the Savior said, "Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her." "She hath done what she could." Ought we not, like her, pour out our best gifts at his divine feet, vielding up our all for him?

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#### LOVE.

Great is Love; mightier than the mightiest of men or angels, yet as humble and as docile as a happy child. It is an emanation of the light ineffable, shining forth clear and bright, with rays bland and mild, yet warm enough to thaw and mellow our frigid hearts, and start in the soul affections pure and holy, kindled into life by the Spirit of the living God. These affections in the soul of the truly pious furnish the distinctive and unmistakable tokens of the true sons and daughters of God. This love shed abroad in the heart is a covenanted gift and blessing. "Know, therefore, the Lord thy God; he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him."

H. G. Spayth, 1852.

## THE THOUGHT OF GOD.

To have correct conceptions of God continually before our minds would soon mold us into his moral image. How our hearts would glow with divine love. How would we with holy admiration pattern after his moral excellences and long to be like him. Our minds would be strengthened and ennobled by communion with him. Our cearts would catch fire by contact with the ardent flame of divine love. Our words, our actions, even our very manners, would acquire excellence from such association, from such heavenly acquaintanceship. We should receive more instruction than we could derive from the company of sages; more gems than could be gathered on the hills of science; better graces than are taught in the halls of fashion; finer beauties than are to be seen in the galleries of taste; more divine knowledge than can be acquired in the "schools of the prophets."

M. Wright.

JULY 7.

Rev. Jacob Bachtel, Jr., 1812.

JULY 8.

#### THE BIBLE A MODEL BOOK.

The grandest strides of literature have been made under the direct light of the Bible. This is to be attributed to two facts chiefly: first, to the influence and power of the Bible upon the character and thoughts of men; secondly, to the superior character of the composition, thought, and general literature of the Bible as a model. In the simple and direct influence of this example more has been done for the advancement, elevation, and purification of the literature of the world, than by the example of all other literary masterpieces of the world. Men who have been honored by their race as the chieftains in literature, have never written more grandly than when they have bowed down to pay their holiest reverence to this book as infinitely the superior of all writings.

J. W. Hott.

#### HEAVEN TO THE POOR.

The poor man thinks of heaven as a place of possession; a place where poverty will never show its ugly face; where the wolf will never come nigh the door. He has had a hard struggle of it in this world. As he has passed the homes of wealth and luxury, as he has seen the children of the rich enjoying ease and advantages denied himself and his own, his mind has been troubled. He has toiled hard and long to get a home on earth where he can spend the evening of life and die in peace. Many of these hard toilers have failed in this, and many others have only secured a gloomy cabin with scanty fare for themselves and families? Is it to be wondered that he longs for the home in heaven—that he, more than others, thinks of the "house not made with hands," "the inheritance of the saints in light?" Does not the Savior encourage such hopes in the promise that he has gone to provide places for his people—a prepared home for them in the "Father's house?"

J. Dickson.

JULY 9.

JULY 10.

Rev. George Miller, 1837.

## SLANDER - PROOF.

The deeply-pious soul rises in the devotions of his heart far above the aspersions of the persecutor. It is enough for him to know that his record is on high. He pities the poor bigot who seeks no better employment than reviling his fellow-men. He rejoices that he is counted worthy to share with the Lord in the persecutions of the wicked. There is peace in a consciousness of rectitude before God that the wicked tongue of the slanderer can never destroy. The life of such a soul is hid with Christ in God. Sure he is on the earth, but his conversation is in heaven.

William Hanby, 1850.

## OUR HERITAGE.

The church has passed the days of her deep anguish, sorrow, and blood. Her present members are but faintly impressed with a sense of the weight of sufferings endured by Christians during the first three centuries of the Christian era, within which three millions suffered martyrdom by Jewish and heathen persecutions. The history of the subsequent persecutions and sufferings of Christians by those of the same name is read as a tale that is told. The shocking scenes that transpired in Germany, Bohemia, Poland, Hungary, France, England, and Ireland, when Christians endured all the cruel torture that devils could invent or wicked men could inflict, till their blood was poured out like flowing rivers to deluge the land, are nearly lost in the dim shades of the distant past, while we enjoy the blessing of liberty, the quietude of repose, and the safety of protection.

William Davis, 1855.

JULY II.

Rev. Amos H. Rice, 1849. Rev. John P. Miller, 1853.

JULY 12.

#### ADVICE TO STUDENTS.

If success is desired you must be prompt and systematic in your studies. In order to this, intrusions during study-hours, no matter from what quarter they come, must not be allowed. Give your fellow-students, and, indeed, all others, to understand this at once. If you will firmly and persistently take this course, study will soon become easy and successful. This, you may be sure, is the experience of all who have tried it. Nor can you reasonably hope to succeed without a rigid observance of this rule; that is to say, you can not do thorough work without order, system, and perseverance. These are cardinal virtues in the life of a student. Other good qualities may be possessed, but nothing can supply the lack of these.

L. Davis.

## THE SPRINGS OF TRUE JOY.

Success in business, the accumulation of wealth, ability to command position, personal influence can not produce such grand results as the possession of eternal life "here" and "now." The possessor of all these may be happy, but it is not his success, accumulations, or position that makes him so. If he does not "now" possess eternal life he will get but a low grade of joy-life from those outward possessions. I have been entertained in wealthy homes where all that money could buy was possessed, yet in those mansions there was a skeleton that turned those princely palaces into garnished sepulchers, cold and sad as death itself. And I have been in cabins of poverty and temporal need and yet with all their seeming dreariness and want they were like the outer courts of heaven—made joyous with the fullness of God's peace and love. True joy is joy within the soul.

W. M. Givens.

JULY 13.

Rev. Edmond S. Lorenz, A. M., 1854.

Rev 6, H. Bile 18-47

JULY 14.

Rev. Wm. Otterbein Grimm, 1837.

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#### THE WORTH OF SOULS.

It would seem that the great worth of souls ought to constrain us to earnest efforts for their salvation. And it would, had we a just estimate of the worth of a soul. Earth has nothing so valuable as the souls of men, nothing that should call forth such earnest, personal efforts as the bringing of them to Christ. Yet, how we labor year after year for the honor that fadeth and the treasure that faileth, while precious immortal souls are perishing all around us. How we economize and bear double loads that our children may secure a good education or have a good outset. Noble sacrifices! But there is something more important. Better than success in business and better than the ripest culture, is the salvation of their souls.

D. N. Howe.

#### THANK YOU.

It is so easy to say "Thank you." The effort it costs is so slight. The two short words are so quickly spoken, and yet they mean so much. They do not mean only that you are really thankful, but they indicate that you observe the gentle courtesies of life, and that goes far toward making up what we regard as the cultured gentleman or lady. There are things that are of far greater value than mere polish and glitter. Solid deeds are of vastly more consequence. But even the best deeds acquire added worth when performed with gentleness and grace rather than rendered in a rude or uncouth way. The diamond possesses intrinsic value in the rough, but its worth is immensely heightened when the gem is polished. Gold from the mine is valuable, but its worth is increased when purified and stamped into coin, or wrought into beauty by the skill of the artist.

D. Berger.

JULY 15.

Rev. J. K. Alwood, 1828.

Co. B di.

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JULY 16.

### RELIGION NEEDED.

Religion betters the external condition of men by making an industrious man out of an indolent one, a sober man out of a drunkard, an honest man out of a dishonest one. It substitutes economy for prodigality, and, in short, gives a judicious direction to all the efforts of its subjects. But a man may have all these and not be a Christian. He may be nothing but a thrifty worldling at best, and needs the kingdom of God within him, not to better his temporal estate, but that his soul may be saved, and his talents sanctified to higher ends than those which now engross his attention.

W. J. Shuey.

## VALUE OF THE CLASSICS.

Classical study gives us a view of the world in the vigor of youth. It opens the fountains of knowledge from which modern authors have drank. It leads us into the history of two of the most interesting people of the past. It directs us into the study of Greek philosophy which has furnished thoughts, models, and rivals of modern philosophers. It gives a mental discipline and a culture in taste not obtained by other studies. The study of languages, especially the study of the classical languages, opens the side of our nature toward humanity. Followed by history, logic, and philosophy, it prepares us for and introduces us to the study of mind and immaterial things.

J. A. Weller.

JULY 17.

Rev. E. S. Bunce, 1818.

JULY 18.

#### FRIENDS.

We like to have friends. We like for others to know that we have friends. Some friends may have deserted us. Some have gone far away. Others are buried in the grave, and our hearts swell, and our eyes moisten, and there is something chokes up our throats as we think of them and of the sweet past. Still, we want present, living, real friends. Addison said, "There is indeed no blessing of life that is any way comparable to a discreet and virtuous friend." Aristotle felt the need when he said, "There are no friends." Emerson uttered a true and beautiful sentiment when he said, "Our chief want in life is somebody who shall make us do what we can. This is the service of a friend." It was Young who said, "A friend is worth all hazards we can run." Who would want to live another day if no heart beat in unison with his own? Who would care to battle with life's ills if there were none to wish him a better lot, or grace to bear the present? It is the heart asserting its itself when it calls up "a friend of mine."

J. W. Hott.

#### RECOGNITION IN HEAVEN.

Those who have gone from us have not returned to tell us how it will be over there. For aught we know the departed may be very near to us; they may be all around us, but we can neither see nor hear them. Sometimes, in our eagerness to catch even a whisper from them, we press our ear against the thin veil that separates this world from that. But all is quiet. Not a whisper comes to us. In spite of this painful silence, we believe-yes, in our heart of hearts we believe-they are living still, and that some time we shall see them and know them. While we may not now understand how we shall know each other in the world to come, we can not erase from our minds the impression that those we have known on earth we shall know in heaven. Does not that mother expect to know her own child in heaven? It may be that we shall know each other by sight or by some kind of intuition. Be that as it may, "we shall know as we are known, and see as we are seen." It seems to me that this idea of heavenly recognition is in perfect harmony with the highest order of reason, as well as the deepest yearnings of our souls. In memory and affection we cling to our loved ones and refuse to give them up. Their image is photographed upon our souls, and our faith and hope say we shall see them again. J. Weaver.

JULY 19.

JULY 20.

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#### THE TOBACCO-HABIT.

The use of tobacco is a barbarism. The civilized race acquired the habit of the savage tribes of America. Being of a barbaric origin, it is not strange that the habit tends to make men swagger and strut and boast and act more or less like barbarians. That it has this tendency is a fact apparent to any close observer of the manners and language of many of the young men who smoke. Even among the juniors and seniors in the colleges of this country, the coarse, boorish manners and slang phrases of the smokers contrast harshly with the more genteel bearing of those who have not become addicted to the use of the weed. The habit blunts the sensibilities of its victim, and renders him oblivious of or insensible to the requirements of good taste and refinement, and the preferences and conveniences of others.

I. L. Kephart.

## PREACHING TO CHILDREN.

Is it no benefit for one in his early years to be drawn into the church, to be instructed in the Scriptures, and in righteousness, "made wise unto salvation," to be rooted in the faith, and to be trained for usefulness in the great mission of life? We can not foresee the immense results in afterlife that may accrue from seed sown in the youthful soil. Who can tell but that among those little ones whom we instruct each Sabbath in the sanctuary there may be one who will, in after-years, rise up to bless the race with his benedictions and fill the earth with his praise? John Trebonius, a German professor, always appeared before his class with uncovered head; and when asked for an explanation of his reverence he replied, "Who can tell what may yet rise up among these youths?" And among the pupils of the class was Martin Luther, that "solitary monk that shook the world."

J. W. Etter.

JULY 21.

JULY 22.

#### THE DIGNITY OF MAN.

Man is the most solemn thing in the universe of God. He is a sight for angels to look upon. He is the object of God's love. The Savior died to redeem him. The Holy Ghost seeks and enlightens him. The sacred oracles have been given to him. Originally the crown of universal dominion was put upon his brow. The divine nature itself was made the pattern of his creation. Now if man, as man, from the very dignity of his nature challenges our admiration and wonder, how immeasurably yet sadly grand the picture grows in the light of that pitiable ruin in which the gospel presents him to us, with his possible restoration to a life and state of happiness far outmeasuring that in which he was created.

N. Castle.

#### WARNING AGAINST DRUNKENNESS.

Let me warn young men to dread the sin of drunkenness. Keep at a distance from it, and avoid all appearances of it and approaches to it. It has slain its thousands of young people, has ruined their health, brought diseases upon them, and cut them off in the flower of their days. How many fall unpitied sacrifices to this base lust! Look not therefore upon the wine when it is red, and when it gives its color in the cup. If you saw poison put into the glass you would not drink it. And if it be provoking to God, and ruin to your souls, it is worse than poison. It is worse than death. There is hell in the cup! And will you not refuse it? Are you, young men, ready to enlist under the banner of prohibition, and by your example and teaching save many from a drunkard's grave and a drunkard's hell? You who have been well educated, who have been brought up in sober families, who have had an example of sobriety set before you, and have known what the honors and pleasures of a sober conversation are, if, when you set up for yourselves, you think yourselves happy in getting clear from the restraints of a sober regimen, and take the liberty of the tipplers or drunkard, what a reproach it will be to you! What grief and sorrow to your friends! What degeneracy! What a fall from your first principles!

I. I. Glossbrenner.

JULY 23.

JULY 24.

Bishop J. J. Glossbrenner, D. D., 1813.

#### INDUSTRY AND PERSEVERANCE.

Many hope to succeed in the professions or in business without pattent, persevering labor. Many are in haste to be rich and are not satisfied to await the results of the slow plodding methods of our fathers. So in all the walks in life, in every vocation, many young men are hoping to succeed without proving themselves worthy of success. One of the most striking tendencies of this age is a desire to attain that which is wished for by one bound. The cause lies in the restlessness of our nation and countrymen. Less energy is not what is needed, but more perseverance and work. We must apply the remedy; and that remedy is to learn that objects and ends of real merit and worth are not to be obtained by a single leap, but by steady growth. Life is a field in which it is the duty and to the interest of every man to be an industrious and honored worker. Indolence never led to any real distinction, nor has sloth ever opened the path to independence and true nobility.

M. R. Drury.

## HOW TO PROVIDE FOR THE CHILDREN.

In looking about to find places to economize, do not begin, first of all, with your children's education. If you must furnish them cheaper clothes, if you must ask them to board themselves, if they appreciate the situation they will gladly make the sacrifices. Cut on your luxuries—your tobacco, your high living, everywhere you can; but do not keep your children from school, except when necessity demands it. Their schooldays will soon pass. Help them to economize their time. Put a little money into their brains, and it will be an investment which no panic can affect, no drought destroy, no failure of banks depress. I press these things, and press them now, because now is the time when these questions must be considered, and now the time when the sacrifices must be made. We must live for our children if we wish them to make the most of life. If we by any mistake of ours wrong them here, and blight their early lives, a wrong has been committed which is irreparable.

H. A. Thompson.

JULY 25. JULY 26.

#### INFANTS IN HEAVEN.

If all infants are saved, and we must think so unless we are bidden by the very highest authority to think otherwise, then what an innumerable company!—a number which challenges the most vivid imagination to grasp. Allowing one half of the human race to die in infancy, according to the present population and mortality, not less than seventeen hundred infants die every hour, forty thousand every day, five millions every year. And these are all in heaven! Transporting thought! Five million infant souls enter the regions of bliss every year, all washed in the blood of the Lamb, and robed in the purest white. The most perfect ideal of beauty of which the human mind can conceive is an infant saved and glorified in heaven.

J. Weaver.

## THE MASSES AND EDUCATION.

It is estimated that in 1930 there will be a population west of the Mississippi River of 100,000,000 souls. Two hundred thousand come to our shores annually from other countries. This, with the present rate of increase in our home population, will soon give us 200,000,000 of immortal souls to be fed, - not on bread alone, but on the eternal truths of God. Let Imagination stretch her wings and fly above the contending forces of good and evil, and look down upon the possibilities of this golden age. What holy enthusiasm should such a view awaken! But we need not be lifted to the mountain-top to see the battle raging between truth and Indeed, the contest is going on in every human heart. Man is destined to be free; but freedom is impossible without a knowledge of the truth. Education of head and heart is indispensable to the fullest grasp of this truth. Our "civil and religious liberty" has its basis in the virtue and intelligence of the ruling classes. The ballot in the hands of the ignorant and vicious masses endangers the dearest interests of every citizen. Is it not clearly the duty of the church to educate its children?" M. S. Drury.

JULY 27.

Rev. Phineas B. Lee, D. D., 1844.

JULY 28.

#### THE DISREGARD OF CONSCIENCE.

An element of weakness is seen in the manner in which conscience is stultified by treating with indifference questions relating to conduct and heart-keeping. Some things are indefensible in themselves; and there are others upon which the question recurs over and over again, Is it right? The minister is questioned by the anxious yet compromising mother about these lines of action which are of doubtful propriety. Frequently in answering these questions, we are so anxious to be broad and liberal in our ideas, that we pass beyond the line necessary to be drawn between the church and the world. Does the theater, dance, card-table, and the skating-rink, and similar sources of amusement, tend to the glory of God? Are they not all condemned by that sweeping command, "Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord?" Any course not opposed by the word of God and the monitions of conscience should be condemned. What is questionable can not be right. Religion champions the good, not the questionable, and it approves what is truthful, pure, and honorable.

T. D. Adams.

## PRACTICAL EDUCATION.

The practical elements of society must be recognized. They present themselves in large numbers at the doors of colleges, demanding admission. They desire an education, but every study they take up is elected with reference to business. It is folly to submit to young men almost trafficmad, a course of study nearly one half of which is made up of Greek and Latin authors. What care they for Homer's verses or Cicero's orations? These will not help them in bargaining or to a better understanding of the laws of trade; but they can be readily persuaded that a knowledge of the German and French will be of service to them in our complex national life. In addition to this it is really questionable whether it is prudent to encourage a student to study the Greek and Latin who has a positive distaste for them, and whose prospective vocation does not require it. The law of trade, or "natural selection," ought certainly to be observed in such cases. I venture to predict, therefore, a more liberal policy for the students of the future - one more in harmony with the genius of our country and times, an elective policy which may result in an equally profound and certainly a more varied scholarship, among which the students of the old and regular classical course will probably rank highest, as in the past, while those of a more practical bent will be more active and influential in the business affairs of life. D. D. DeLong.

JULY 29. JULY 30. 235

#### MINISTERS AND MONEY MATTERS.

If as a minister you seek for the sake of the cause to which you have devoted your life to make your finances a help instead of a hinderance, there are different observations which, holding everywhere, will aid you. As your income is approximately fixed, your wisdom is in your guarding the side of expense. What you can produce for your living, make the most of. Do not go in debt, and train yourself to face unimperative wants with a dollar in your pocket. Remember that a dollar that is coming will not buy all of a dozen one-dollar articles. Voluntarily assume hardships while your necessities are no greater rather than have a burden placed upon you without your option when your circumstances may be less favor-If you find that your calculations leave you short, lessen your calculations. Do not deceive yourself by buying an article for every occasion; and do not buy so much that under the name of plenty you provide a cloak for waste. Save when you have. Provide a way so that when you have a dollar to spare you can put it where it will be safe and become a means of help. If buying an article will keep you from paying out money for something of which you will see nothing to-morrow, buy the article. Study the difference between that which goes into your capital or permanent effects and that which is wholly consumed. Consult and enlist your family. Do not be afraid of some witless person's hinting "premeditated poverty." Try to express sweetness out of your privations. Do not set out to vie with the vain. Buy nothing in haste, and take care of what you have. Cultivate that executiveness which will enable you to see to your household affairs without embarrassing your other duties. Remember that nothing is unworthy of your consideration which may make for your usefulness, and that that heart can not be quite right which is not willing to try to do the very best in just that situation in which one is placed by the Creator. Lastly, do not allow these little attentions, or God's blessing on them, to be an occasion of injury to your character and work.

A. W. Drury.

JULY 31. 237

#### MYSTERIES OF DEATH.

I do not know why as the long train of ages glides away, the sons of men, the youth in life's green spring, and he who goes in the full strength of years, the maid, the infant in the smiles and beauty of its innocent age, should be cut off; nor why a darling child, whose purity of life and sweetness of nature ally it to the angels, is suddenly cut down like a precious flower by an early frost, while a rude child, whose vocabulary is the home of horrid oaths and whose life reaches over the community like a plague in Egypt, grows at large in health and vigor; nor why a young theological student with emaciated frame and faltering step frets the street with his nervous tread, while in the door of the same street stands a man of large frame, rosy cheeks, and seemingly complete health, who is a saloon-keeper; nor why a man of great benefactions falls like a field of grain by the untimely hail, and a man who spreadeth himself for himself like a green bay-tree, and whose relations to the country and society are like those of a sponge, lives on in the questionable glory of his selfishness; nor why Hancock, Grant, Garfield, and Lincoln are dead, and others that might be mentioned are alive; nor why the sick died and the dead were buried, and why the head of John the Baptist was brought in a charger by a worthless fellow who apparently was not fit to live, at the same time when Jesus, the great Healer, was upon the earth. If we turn from God and the Bible, earth's sorrows still remain, its cares multiply, our loved ones sicken, and we can point them to no Savior to lighten the gloom. They die, and we follow them to a godless grave whose darkness no midday sun can dispel.

W. M. Beardshear

# AUGUST.

## LET ME STAY IN HIS PRESENCE.

Let me stay where my spirit is feasting, On the Lord's redeeming grace; Let me stay! for my soul cries with rapture, "Surely God is in this place."

Let me stay where his presence delights me
With a peace beyond control;
Oh the rapturous love of my Savior
Sweetly glows within my soul.

Let me stay in this union so perfect, I in Christ and he in me; Evermore I would drink of the fountain Of salvation, full and free.

Let me stay in the presence of Jesus,
Where my soul is sweetly blest;
Let me stay where my poor, weary spirit
Finds in Christ its perfect rest.

I. Baltzell.

#### POWER OF THE INVISIBLE.

No man ever makes the most of his own powers, nor accomplishes the most for his race unless he has implicit faith in the invisible; unless he possesses that habit of mind which keeps the soul in contact and communion with the unseen and distant, the eternal and divine. It becomes a principle of strength; and no other incentive has ever produced such examples of energy and industry, or made a man so mighty as this. It develops in him the highest style of humanity, and gives him a more than human power. It brings to a helpless being the power of a divine nature; and he who thus allies himself to God holds in his hands all the forces of the universe.

H. A. Thompson.

#### WISDOM AGAINST MONEY.

Wisdom is superior to gold because its benefits embrace two worlds. Wealth, however valuable here, can supply no passport to the skies, can secure no distinction to its possessor in the world to come, but all its advantages will cease when he leaves this world. But religion, while it is perfectly adapted to the present state, has yet a direct reference to the future world. Is it a system of conviction? it opens our eyes to enable us to "flee the wrath to come." A system of instruction? it is to make us "wise unto salvation." A system of sanctification? it is to enable us to escape the "pollution that is in the world," so we may be made "meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light." A system of gracious influences? it is that we may bring forth fruit unto righteousness, the end being everlasting life. Now as heaven is higher than the earth, and eternity more important than time, by so much it is better to seek wisdom than gold.

Alexander Owen.

AUGUST I.

Rev. C. S. Meily, A. M., 1850.

AUGUST 2.

Rev. John Hoobler, 1801.

J. M. Lower, 232. Har ver St. Fit. Way wo Sud, 1852.

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#### THE LABORING-MAN.

Have you ever contemplated the wonders which a faithful laborer's life-time may accomplish, and yet not learned to respect the laboringman? I love to grasp the hand of a man that has felled a forest! It may be hard, it may be rough, but it is a true hand, and I love it! Yes, he who has redeemed a single acre from the fertile waste of nature, and subjected it to the capacity of feeding the millions, or has planted a tree from which posterity may pluck, has performed a noble act. I tell you it is for such that "the wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose." B. R. Hanby.

## NATIONAL GREATNESS.

In what does true national greatness consist? I answer, in the diffusion of religious truth abroad; in the recognition of divine law as higher than human law; in making God our ruler as citizens as well as Christians. And, as Christian citizens, we must make those Protean laws of expediency yield to the higher law of right. We must keep party interests always subordinate to the general good. To this end we must vote our religion, elevating men to office who have the fear of God before them-men who are known for religious principles as well as political integrity. We would have every Christian deposit his vote with a sense of his responsibily to God.

J. Dickson.

AUGUST 3.

AUGUST 4.

Rev. Henry D. Healy, 1835.

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## PASTOR AND PEOPLE.

The true pastor sympathizes with every burden and toil and affliction of his people. If any have burdens of perplexing care, he bears a part; for he has upon him the care of the church. If any are afflicted, he is himself afflicted with them. If any are poor, he has good cause to sympathize with such; for he is himself not above need. Are any who hear the word of God at his lips sick unto death? Are the families over whom he watches broken by bereavement? Does he kneel beside the dying member of his flock? Standing in the pulpit in the service, does he see in the coffin that one he has been accustomed to see sitting in the sanctuary on the Sabbath? Who can tell the anxiety and care and pain of his heart, in such hours of trial? Only next to the sorrow of such times is the experience of the heart when any of his flock become cold or walk unruly, or are disaffected toward any of their brethren, or alienated from the There is no relation outside the family circle so sacred as that of a faithful pastor to his flock. I. W. Hott.

## TWO CHOICES.

A few years since there stood upon the rostrum two college-lads to receive their degrees. They had contended manfully for the mastery in their classes. Each went from his Alma Mater bearing a parchment of recognition. The world was before them. Rich harvests were waving on every hand. The parents of each were proud of them. The hearts of generous friends beat warm in hope of their success. They parted on that rostrum never to meet again as on that day. Their degrees marked the time of their separation. One yielded to the voice of Christianity, repented, and was cleansed from the power of sin. He became a flaming minister of the glad tidings. Many a heart is stirred to its inmost recesses when his name is mentioned. Generations will live to call his name blessed. The other spurned the call of the church. He mocked the prayers of his mother and scorned the advice of his father. He closed his heart to the influence of the Spirit, and nourished in his soul principles the most vicious. He became a minister of unrighteousness. Many a soul is filled with curses deep because he led it into ruin. Many a hearth-stone is craped in mourning because of the spiritual and temporal death wrought by him. He has lived to curse the world, not to bless it.

G. P. Macklin.

. August 5.

Rev. Lyman S. Chittenden, 1819.

August 6.

## FAMILY RELIGION.

The family altar is a powerful means of domestic education. And when the children are gathered, morning and evening, around this sacred place, the parents may at least indulge a reasonable hope that they will espouse the fear of the Lord. In the daily devotion of the family will be found powerful means for building up a substantial religious character. Parents who make a profession of religion, and fail to honor God regularily in their families, deprive their children, whether they be religious or irreligious, of one of the most real and permanent blessings that the family relation can secure.

D. Berger.

## A LIBRARY AN INDEX OF CHARACTER.

Nowhere do all the sides of a man's nature reveal themselves so fully as in his library. I am speaking now of a true library which is the steady growth of years. The true personal library grows as the trees grow-month by month and year by year. It grows as the turtle's shell grows, adapting itself to the growing mind. It discloses therefore the tendencies which have ruled the owner's mind and the subjects which have engrossed his attention at various times in his life. To the eye that can read the record, it gives the history of his mental development. You can read vastly more of his personal history and character, more of his unrealized ideals, and more of his future, out of his books than you can out of the bumps on his head, so pregnant with meaning to the expert phrenologist. The date of the purchase of his various books, the amount of use he makes of each, and other like facts, are important data in his mental history. The manner in which they are cared for, and the order or lack of order, as the case may be, in which they are arranged, are significant. The condition of the margins, whether spotless and innocent of any expression of ideas or freighted with suggestive reflections upon the author's thought, is often an open revelation of character.

E. S. Lorenz.

## AUGUST 7.

Rev. Levi Moore, 1823.

Oras Clinion Buller 1944

AUGUST 8.

Rev. Joshua Cecil, 1829.

#### GETTYSBURG.

The battle of Gettysburg has been considered as the turning-point in the war; for from it the ultimate failure of the rebellion was assured. And as that battle was the culminating crisis of the war, so the last great effort of Lee, when he hurled twenty thousand of his choicest troops against the Union line, was the supreme crisis of the battle, and also of the country's history. The rebellion at that point reached its high-water mark, and from that on the waters steadily receded. That charge then was the turning-point of history and human destiny. It failed, and with its failure was demonstrated the fact that a government founded upon oppression and wrong could not succeed in the advanced light and civilization of this age, and the shadow be made thereby to go backward upon the dial of human progress. The Republic was "saved, redeemed, baptized, and consecrated anew to the coming ages."

J. Hoke.

## THE LIQUOR-TRAFFIC HUMBUG.

The entire liquor-traffic exists to-day for the benefit alone of some few hundred thousand rum-venders and manufacturers, while the entire residue of the fifty millions of the nation are groaning under the vast burden of this gigantic usurper and tyrant. This small number of liquordealers are so deluding the masses of the people as to make them believe that the traffic is absolutely useful and necessary, and that the whole fabric of the commercial world would crumble into ruin if the traffic were destroyed, when the facts are that if the entire business were annihilated in twenty-four hours not a single person outside of the circle of rum-dealers would be harmed a single farthing; and they, in fact, would be infinitely better off. And still the people of this country endure this unparalleled humbug. If the traffic were simply a useless thing it might be endured; but viewing it from the stand-point of its destructiveness, the heart grows sick, and the moral sensibilities are shocked. It pervades the whole social body, corrupting habits of virtue and thrift, destroying industry, begetting a vicious and spendthrift spirit, and producing poverty, pauperism, vagabondage, and crime. Was there ever a greater humbug?

W. S. Titus.

August 9.

AUGUST 10.

Allra Eva Byrer. 1871

#### LOVE OF FREEDOM.

It is manifest that there can be no uplifting of the faculties, no unfolding of the higher and better qualities of our being when the feeling of self-reliance is either wanting or in any way trammeled in its legitimate action. Dryden has said, "Freedom is the first delight of human kind." It is, indeed, the key-note to civilization, refinement, culture. It is almost the only thing that gives vital energy to heart and life. Feeble human nature needs the inspiration of high hope, and must have it or sink under the weight of its ignorance and vices. Nor are young people exceptions to this rule. This is known to all those who have had anything to do in the responsible work of their government and education.

L. Davis.

## POWER OF GODLINESS.

It is easy to go into debt for fine houses, fine furniture, or fine costumes, and in this way live on the hard earnings of others, but to earn a living in the pursuit of some honest occupation and pay honest debts is not quite so easy. So is it easy to give our names to the church, attend to ceremonies, and give a *little* money to some of her benevolent institutions, but to pray without ceasing, to crucify the flesh, to press into the kingdom of God, to wrestle with principalities and powers, will require some of the *power* of our holy religion. The form does not forbid the gratification of the flesh—it is the power that would press against wind and tide, that would contend with the elements of all the evil propensities of the heart.

L. Davis, 1851.

AUGUST II.

face

Le Colonia

AUGUST 12.

Rev. Samuel A. Mowers, 1840.

#### THE MEASURE OF THE MAN.

He who expects to measure his worth by dollars and cents has cooped his soul in a silver dollar, and if he don't get out of there he is danger of hell-fire. No material standard can properly measure the worth of the energies of an immortal spirit. England pays her queen tens of thousands a year; but a million dollars annually can not be an equivalent for the labors of a faithful teacher, an efficient minister, a good housewife, or an honest toiler in life's broad vineyard. The slave who was asked by a kind-hearted prospective master if he would be honest if he should buy him, replied, "I will be honest whether you buy me or not." What a worthy motto for every statesman and minister of God in our land! God will always reward personal integrity.

W. M. Beardshear.

#### KINDLINESS OF SPIRIT.

Brotherly-kindness is a jewel of rare beauty. It shines out in the words and acts of all who have the mind and spirit of Christ. It goes to the erring ones, takes them by the hand, and in words of tenderness says, "Come this way, my brother." It will go to those whom it may think to be in error, and say, "Sit down, and let us reason together." Is this not in harmony with the language of Paul—"If a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual restore such a one in the spirit of meekness?" Evil of whatever sort should be met firmly, but not rashly. The erring ones should be met firmly, but kindly. "Good words do more than hard speeches, as the sunbeams, without any noise, will make the traveler cast off his coat, which all the blustering winds could not do, but only make him bind it closer to him." "Let this mind be in you, which also was in Christ Jesus."

J. Weaver.

AUGUST 13.

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AUGUST 14.

## THE PULPIT AND REVIVALS.

Preaching is the greatest human factor in revivals of religion. In the kingdom of nature there is no fructification until the life-germ is brought in contact with nature's forces; so in the kingdom of our blessed Lord. In order that the Spirit may induct a soul into the kingdom of heaven, through a supernatural begetment and spiritual birth, it becomes indispensable that the truth, as the incorruptible seed of regeneration, be brought by a living ministry in contact with the mind, heart, conscience, and will. Hence the importance of well-directed effort in the pulpit in order to secure a genuine revival. The preacher who will be successful in reviving his church and saving the people, if I mistake not, must hold up Christ as the Savior of a dying world, and that, too, in a way so as to impress the people that the cross has lost none of its ancient power, and that he who looks lives.

E. B. Kephart.

### HOME INFLUENCE OF WOMEN.

The establishing of homes on earth is the work of God's own hands. Earth without them to mankind would be a weary waste. No position which women are called to fill is so responsible and so fraught with important results as is the position she occupies in her own home. may discharge her duty to those destitute of the gospel in foreign lands, and to those in her own state and community, yet if she fails to discharge her duty to her own household she fails to meet the obligations which God and society have placed upon her. Upon the home duties and home obligations of Christian women depend largely the existence of nations and the prosperity and perpetuity of the church. From the many homes of earth go forth the influences that bless or curse the world. Woman's strength lies in her influence, and if she properly wield it she may be the prime agent in the regeneration of mankind. In her own home a woman has an empire of her own; and happy is she who so guides and governs it as to bring it into subjection to all the virtues and graces which adorn an intelligent and Christian people.

Mrs. A. R. Kiracofe.

#### AUGUST 15.

Bishop Andrew Zeller, 1755. Rev. Wm. J. Pruner, D. D., 1839.

Edna Thomas. 1885 Gertude Grimes 1880

AUGUST 16.

## CHARACTER AND USEFULNESS.

Important as is the work of educating the intellect, important as is a knowledge of natural science, mathematics, the classics, philosophy, the education of the religious and spiritual nature of man, and a thorough and minute knowledge of the word of revelation—of the science of God—of immeasurably greater importance. Though we admire the scholar, we admire the good man more. We may respect learning and genius, but we love goodness of heart and purity of character. We may fear the great, but we reverence the good. However bright and cultured the intellect, it is the condition of the heart which gives us character, which fits us for truest usefulness in this life and for glory in the life to come.

J. P. Landis.

### RIGHTFULNESS OF GAIN.

It is rather the fault of the many who always remain poor, that wealth is so unequally distributed—rather this than their misfortune or the crime of the wealthy few. If each individual would only reap the field of his own opportunities, there would not be so many overgrown fortunes, so many castles and palaces standing to mock the surrounding poverty. But what man can accuse his neighbor who only gleans where he himself disdains to gather? In one sense there is just so much success in the world, and he who does not put forth his hand for his share adds by so much to the fortune of those who are awake to their interests and opportunities. If any one persists in regarding the avenues of business with doubting eyes, let him look to the reasons for the view he takes.

A. W. Drury.

AUGUST 17.

Rev. W. H. Lanthurn, 1828.

Mrs Ella Cochran 1858

AUGUST 18.

It Elian Much 1 - 1851

# GIVING TO COLLEGES.

Daily we pray, "Thy kingdom come." To train men and women under Christian influences for lives of usefulness will bring an answer to that prayer. You would regard those with pity who should say, "Give us this day our daily bread," and refuse or neglect to plow and sow. God has blessed some with means. How much better to devote at least a part of that good to the cause of Christian education than to leave it for children or other relatives to quarrel over and spend in lawing or extravagance.

R. J. White.

#### GETHSEMANE.

Do I indeed stand in this garden of unutterable sorrow of my Lord! The shadows of the mystic and eternal steal over my heart. I am melted down with the presence of the Lord, and transformed and transported by the fellowship of Jesus. It was here that "he came out as he was wont, to the mount of Olives," unto a place called Gethsemane; and though he had just comforted his disciples with that deep, loving, wonderful discourse, beginning, "Let not your heart be troubled," and followed it with that prayer of all prayers, yet here he "began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy." Here there is an appeal to the heart which no picture and no words can produce or even represent. I never felt the overpowering agony of Jesus in its impressions on my own heart as when standing speechless near the spot of that awful night-anguish of soul.

J. W. Hott.

AUGUST 19.

AUGUST 20.

#### IN CHRIST.

All who expect to live with Christ in the home he has gone to prepare must expect to be very much like him. The resurrection will make our bodies very much like his glorious body; but the soul must find that moral or spiritual likeness this side of the resurrection. Here and now we may be so united to him as to be in him and he in us. We are here and now to be partakers of the divine nature. All this grows out of the one great thought—"in Christ." What a blessed security. In Christ is peace, joy, and consolation. In him is solid comfort. In him is hope. In him is safety. He is all and in all. The church and the world should hear more about Christ. Take him away, and all is gone. No hope, no joy, no peace, no heaven. Take him away, and nothing remains but the blackness of darkness forever.

J. Weaver.

#### HOME INFLUENCE.

The homes of America are the nurseries of the nation's relation and patriotism, its moral and national hope. As the homes are, such will the nation be, as the youths therein must receive, to a large degree, that education and bent of mind that will direct them in all after-life. The piety and spiritual force of the church will be the immediate outgrowth of family religion; and the mothers of the land hold a greater power in their hands than any other class of persons, which, if wielded for the right, will irresistibly mold our future religious success. Out of the groups in these sacred centers must come the patriots and apostles that will preserve the nation and our glorious Christianity, as well as to enlarge and increase the power of each. Pure religion, here taught and examplified, will successfully withstand all the assaults that may be brought against it, however ferce, malicious and long-continued. Young men and women emerging from these holy places into the busy cares and temptations of a wicked world will be followed by a silent influence which will be like ointment upon their heads as long as they live. B. F. Booth.

260

AUGUST 21.

Mary Luse Hill 7864

AUGUST 22.

G. m. mathews 1848.

#### A HAPPY EXPERIENCE.

"Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him." Why is this symbol so frequently employed in the Scriptures, and so tenderly enjoined by the Savior in the prayer he taught his disciples, if it does not mean all it represents? And why may not I, notwithstanding my affliction and weakness, claim what the relation implies? Soon, as in all former experiences, confidence in the word of God began to increase. Light, peace, comfort, and joy followed. Gradually, steadily, these precious influences increased, until my despondency and gloom were gone. I felt that my aching, throbbing head was pillowed upon a Father's heart; and everlasting arms pressed me to his loving bosom.

J. Hoke.

#### THE MOTHER'S POWER.

The family is the oldest and most important institution in the world; for as the creator is more than the creature, the fountain more than the stream, the seed more than the plant, so the family is more than the church or the state. It is a little world in itself. And here is woman's empire—not on royal thrones, nor legislative halls, nor rostrum, but in this sanctum sanctorum, home, sweet home. Here is the secret of her power. Here is where she sways her scepter over the world; for "she that rocks the cradle rules the world." After all our talk about manpower, we must nevertheless acknowledge that our mothers are our rulers. Their boys will be our preachers, bishops, legislators, governors, presidents; and they will be just what their mothers make them at home. What woman would not prefer the honor of Washington's or Wesley's mother to the glory of England's queen?

J. W. Etter.

AUGUST 23.

Res 1 5/1/3

AUGUST 24.

### MANLINESS.

Be a man. This expresses all that is possible to us as men. We can not be gods and we can not be angels. If we will only be men, true men, we shall fulfill our mission here. Our duty is a present duty. Many people are chiefly concerned about the future—their future good and future happiness. If we will attend to present duty well, we need give ourselves no uneasiness about the future. God will take care of that. Yet present duty and fidelity to present opportunities have an indissoluble connection with the future, so that if we are true to our highest present interests, we are thereby the most certainly providing for our highest future interests. This is the part of a man, to be true to present duties and opportunities, or, we might say, to be true to one's self; for he that is true to himself can not be false to God or man.

J. P. Landis.

#### INFINITE RICHES IN CHRIST.

The Queen of Sheba in her visit to Solomon brought one hundred and twenty talents of gold, in our currency probably over three millions of dollars, precious stones whose number and value are not estimated, and of spices so great an amount that there came not again such an abundance · during all the days of Solomon. This was her offering to the prince who reigned in so much grandeur in Jerusalem. When she had seen all the king's glory, and had given expression of her amazement at the splendor and magnificence of his appointments, and before she took her departure, it came her time to ask for royal presents. Of all the costly and splendid things she saw, she asked for whatever her heart craved, and the king gave her according to all her desire. Then to this he freely superadded other gifts according to the greatness of his own royal bounty. And so, laden with the abundance of the generosity of the richest prince on the earth, she returned again to her home in her own distant land. After a manner something like this the Christian comes to his King, bringing such offerings as may be in his power. And bringing these he is entitled to ask for whatever his heart desires. And the great Sovereign, bestowing out of his infinite bounty, sends him away laden with riches such as no human D. Berger. estimate can measure.

## AUGUST 25.

Rev. John W. Kiracofe, 1841. Rev. T. D. Adams, 1844.

AUGUST 26.

#### THE MINISTER'S WORK.

We want men who can grapple with the great evils of the times and work mightily for the Master; men of large views and deep'sympathies; in a word, men of intellect and heart. We must learn more perfectly how to take hold of a brother, degraded, and lift him up into a noble manhood. The work of a preacher is not technical, narrow, and confined. No, no, it is as broad as human wants. It takes hold of man as man, and all that there is of him. It seeks to make the body a fit temple for the indwelling of the Holy Ghost, to bring the intellect, the will, and the sensibilities into perfect harmony with God's will and heart of love, to draw out, expand, and strengthen man's spiritual and devotional nature into the love of God.

L. Davis, 1871.

#### SUCCESS BY PRAYER.

A man in ascending a mountain must go against the law of gravitation; he must lift himself up step by step. So if we come to God we must press against the natural difficulties that surround us, until we get where we can stand on the mount of God. We must take time to pray. "Have not time to pray." Your family cares and business so pressing that you haven't time to pray? Why, those who are the most busy have the most need of prayer. Luther said when he had so much to do, "I can not get along without three hours' prayer a day." That is the way to succeed in business. To get along rapidly, ask God to assist you in your business. I tell you men get along better in all temporal affairs who take time to pray and read God's blessed book. There is nothing that pays better than prayer.

D. Edwards, 1867.

(ada 18. Hitto 1888.)

AUGUST 28.

#### PREVAILING PRAYER.

"Ask and ye shall receive." Man can prevail with God. He suffers man to lay hold of him, to wrestle with him, even till he overcomes and obtains the desire of his heart. Let ministers weep between the porch and the altar; let every Christian flee to his closet, and there plead, first for himself, until he feels the burden of the Lord, until his stubborn heart is melted and runs out after souls, and then let him present before the throne of God the state of the church, its unbelief, lukewarmness, worldliness, and want of love. Let no one suppose such a state of mind can be obtained without effort.

D. Edwards,

#### A COSTLY OFFERING.

A poor pious woman had received the last farewell of her only darling boy, a little distance from New York City, who had turned his heart to a foreign mission as the field of labor to which God indicated it to be his duty to enter. When her darling boy had gone from her desolate home—for it was desolate for her to be there without him she loved so well—she did not for a moment regret her offering to God, though one so valued by her heart; but still she would watch him to the last. Just when the missionaries were to take passage aboard the vessel, one of the missionary secretaries observed a woman standing alone, with hot tears streaming down over her cheeks. He stepped softly to her and asked the cause of her tears. She pointed to the tall young man among the missionaries, and said, "That is my only boy. Upon his arm I had hoped to lean; but God wants him. I have come to watch him to the last moment, and to pray for him, but not to prevent his going." That was a costly offering.

J. W. Hott.

AUGUST 29.

Rev. John Kemp, Jr., 1813.

Temperance Jul per 1805

AUGUST 30.

Rev. O. F. Smith, 1824.

## THE BATTLE AND THE VICTORY.

Not a week, not a day, yea, scarcely an hour of our lives passes, but we experience somewhat of this struggle. Satan assails us in a thousand different ways. There are "fightings without and fears within." The passions and appetites clamor for gratification. Conscience, the magnet of the soul, ever pointing to the throne of God, forbids the indulgence. The moral dispositions are fiercely beleagured by the evil propensities. Evil desires rise up from within, and must be subdued. Inducements to error from without, present themselves and must be battled with. And this state of things is experienced almost hourly. As to the final result of this struggle there can be no question. If God is God, the right must win.

"For right is right since God is God;
And right the day must win;
To doubt would be disloyalty,
To falter would be sin."

True, sin is powerful, but God is almighty, and with a potent arm will wield his moral forces until the devil skulks away into hell, ashamed to even show his head again, and the last sinner on earth is converted or destroyed. All the tendencies of virtue, though now in conflict, are toward supremacy. As the electric current completes its journey over the whole length of the conductor, though that conductor pass over sandy deserts or through the chambers of the deep, encircling the world, so virtue, having gained a lodgment in the heart, in the community, in the nation, tends to disseminate itself through the whole man, the whole community, the whole nation, to the complete annihilation of all wickedness. Its course is onward, and in its advance it gains strength. Like as a stone in a sling when it is made to revolve accumulates momentum, that when it fly it goes with redoubled velocity, so virtue as it advances gains strength and velocity, until it will finally make its last giant effort, and with one fell swoop, rid the world of every system of vice. It may require time to reach this result. But God has an eternity of time before him, and we have no reason to believe that he will ever forsake his cause or abandon his purpose until he has "put all things under his feet."

I. L. Kephart.

AUGUST 31.

Rev. Morgan S. Drury, 1826.

Like the grave which always swallows and is never filled, are the hearts of the unconverted.

J. Russell.

A distillery is as certain to raise up drunkards around it, as are saw-dust and stagnant water to produce flees and frogs.

Wm. R. Rinehart, 1835.

No one can doubt that the liquor-dealers are ready to bring any disaster on our country, rather than give up their nefarious business.

Mrs. A. L. Billheimer.

In looking back I see where I might have done better service; but I console myself with this thought, that I always endeavored to bring an honest heart to the work.

Jacob Erb.

There is no better way of preventing strife and division in a church, or curing it where already existing, than active, earnest work for the salvation of the perishing.

J. Hoke.

What thought can be more stimulating, can more nerve Christians to labor, can more intensify our religious activity than this?—everything we do for our Master hastens his coming.

John Haywood.

If we fail to enter into that rest that remains for the people of God, who can estimate the irreparable loss we will sustain? Ah! the rolling years of eternity will never solve the problem.

W. J. Pruner.

The college is indispensable. It is absolutely essential. The church can not face this nineteenth century and take hold of the work unless the colleges are well sustained. They must supply the needed workers that can go out strong to do battle for the Lord. This counsel ought to be impressed throughout the church in thunder-tones.

H. Garst.

# SEPTEMBER.

## THE DAYS THAT ARE YET TO BE.

Over the distant hill-tops,
Nearer the silent sea,
O'er whose calm the phantom ferryman
Passes unceasingly,
There lies a vision of brightness:—
The days that are yet to be.

Full of the tropic splendor
Of a never-clouded sun,
Rich in deep contentment
From past denial won,
We think of it when the day begins,
And when the day is done.

And oft where the skies are darkest
And clouds rise threateningly,
We turn to the calm beyond the hills
Waiting for you and me,
And comfort our hearts with the promise of
The days that are yet to be.

Maud (Mary A. Share).

#### THE USE OF TALENTS.

There is just as much promised to those who have but one talent as to those who have five. The reward is not given according to the number of talents, but according to the use made of them. It is not the great things which men do which glorify the Savior, but the aggregate of the little acts and deeds of a devoted life. These honor him. "He that serveth me, him will my Father honor." "He that is faithful in that which is least will be faithful also in that which is greatest." It will be safe to say that as a rule those who refuse to do what they are called to do, and are capable of doing, would dishonor God did they possess the coveted talents, means, and position of others.

I. L. Luttrell.

## THE POWER OF A HOLY LIFE.

What a power a holy life is. It is an argument in favor of the Bible and all its teachings; it is salt to preserve the better state of society; it is a light, bright and shining, in this dark world, by which many wanderers are brought into places of safety; it is an elevator by which multitudes are being lifted out of a horrible pit and miry clay, and placed upon a rock, high and elevated. The more lives of this character the church has the more power to elevate, to enlighten, to preserve in purity and from decay, and to save. As the church is in her individuality, so is she in her unit. Every member of the church should feel his responsibility to her, and seek to attain the highest degree of usefulness, by securing all the elements of strength it is possible to possess in this life. Do we possess them? If not, will we seek them?

B. G. Huber.

#### SEPTEMBER I.

Rev. Christian B. Sherk, 1839.

my within

SEPTEMBER 2.

R.S. Esperich 13:00 Thomas Charles Butter 1742

### GROWTH OF CHRISTIANITY.

Christianity is gaining more favor each day. It is making inroads everywhere. India, China, and Japan are bowing at the cross. Paganism, Brahmanism, and Confucianism are gasping in agony. England, which only a century ago was under the dominion of infidelity, has been liberated from her anti-Christ through the vigorous writings of Butler and Goldwin. Everything is hopeful. Christianity is becoming stronger. More people listen to the gospel now than ever. During the past ten years the membership of the church has increased twenty-seven per cent. To-day there are more Bibles, more Christians, more Sunday-school children, more teachers, more sermons, and more spiritual songs than ever there were on any Sabbath since the light of the sun dawned on the garden of Eden.

I. W. Etter.

## CHILDREN IN COLLEGE.

Fathers and mothers, frequently write to your children while in college. No matter how pleasant may be the circumstances surrounding them, or how helpful the people whom they meet, the transition from the atmosphere of home to that of a strange place is a sudden one. A new world opens up before them. Hitherto they have been helped and guarded by older heads than their own. Do not thrust them away so far that they will lose hold of your hand. Let them know that not a day passes without a thought of them; that daily sacrifices are made for their welfare; that their success will be your joy, and their failure your disgrace. Many a boy is restrained from bad conduct by the strong yet tender cords of a mother's love.

H. A. Thompson.

SEPTEMBER 3.

SEPTEMBER 4.

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#### TO YOUNG MINISTERS.

Instruct, brethren, by every power and by all means, and at all hazards. Please, if you can, but be sure you leave your people on a higher plane of knowledge than you found them. Christ said to Peter, "Feed my lambs and my sheep," not call them pet names. Your business is to instruct, not to make people weep, nor even to preach big sermons. Go to yonder shop and you will see where once they put on the tires by heating and welding. Now they do it more rapidly and effectively by the simple process of cold pressure; and the work turned out is more enduring. So put into your work as ministers, in every part of it, from hub to felly, the best stock at your command; but be certain you bind all together by the cold pressure of solid instruction, and the result will be more enduring, and hence more to the glory of God.

G. A. Funkhouser.

#### ALEXANDER OWEN.

The pulpit was the field where his noble powers found their best ex-His sermons were thoroughly methodical, carefully prepared throughout, and uttered with the freedom and strength of a master. He possessed a lively imagination, and fine powers of delineation, all under perfect control. His utterance was free, full, easy, glowing, his manner calm, dignified, impressive. He made in the pulpit the impression of being in the truest and noblest sense a minister of the word. He carried to his pulpit service the spirit of a humble dependence in God, and sought for his work the preparation of the Spirit. We remember once on a Sabbath morning taking a walk with him awhile before the hour of service. Our way lay through a grove where the hills and a thicket closed us in from observation. Pausing a moment and looking about us, Mr. Owen observed, "Here, I think, is a good place to pray." We knelt down together, and with great fervency he implored the divine assistance in the approaching We did not wonder, a little later, that his sermon was fragrant with the fresh odors of paradise.

D. Berger.

SEPTEMBER 5.

SEPTEMBER 6.

# THE PROMISES OF GOD.

God has given unto us exceeding great and precious promises. They are to the believer an inexhaustible mine of wealth—an armory filled with weapons, offensive and defensive. They are as high as heaven, deep as the grave, and vast as the universe. No one can tell how precious the promises are, till he has leaned his whole weight on them. There is no pathway in life exempt from trials and afflictions; no day without its night; no rose without its thorn; no valley without its hills and mountains. But as an offset to all this, there is a promise to meet every possible case. Jesus has gone over the whole length of the way—not by proxy, but in person. He has drank at every fountain, passed through every valley, ascended every rugged mountain, passed over every desert, crossed every stream, and has thoroughly prepared the way. And there is not a passable inch of the way but is well covered with the most precious promises.

J. Weaver.

#### A CHERISHED NAME.

He will never more lead an army nor guide the ship of state. He will never more join his comrades around the camp-fire. He is dead. No, not dead; such men never die. He is only lifted out of the fogs and mists of the earth, above the hills into the sunlight of immortality, where all can see him and his work in the clear atmosphere of truth. To behold him now we must look away from selfishness and prejudice. We must look above and far beyond the warring passions of mortals into the heavens of immortality. He lives! He lives for evermore in the affections of his free and prosperous countrymen, in the hearts of the millions he has liberated and the country he has united. And long as the institutions for which he battled shall bless unborn generations, as long as oppressed humanity shall hear of the liberty and prosperity of this great nation, so long will General Ulysses S. Grant live in the memory, the affections, and the gratitude of mankind.

M. P. Doyle.

SEPTEMBER 7.

SEPTEMBER 8.

Rev. Wm. Miller, 1823.

# THE CRY OF THE HEATHEN.

Turn toward the heathen world and listen to their pitiful cries. Nine hundred million souls, blind, degraded, debased, lost in midnight darkness, to whom the gospel has never come; dark, benighted Africa asking to be regenerated; India calling for emancipation; China and Japan with just enough light to awaken within them a deep longing for more light. Indeed, all over those dark, dreary lands the inhabitants are stretching forth their hands to God, and calling for help. Do you not think their pitiful cries ascending to the throne of God and falling upon the ear of the great High-priest touch his heart, and cause him to reiterate with increased emphasis the command, "Go; go, ye favored ones, and supply these pressing demands."

G. M. Mathews.

# SILENT FORCES.

"The best things in the world are everywhere the quietest things." With inexpressible softness the light and warmth of the sun come down. The mellowing spring advances quietly. The resurrection of beauty and life on the earth, the robing of nature with her new habiliments, the bursting of myriad buds into fragrant bloom, the ripening into summer's fullness and autumn's bounty, all proceed with the utmost quiet. Noise and bluster and turmoil mark the path of Destruction's agents. Thunder and earthquakes and hurricanes and roaring cataracts do not build up, but destroy. Noiselessly the great earth revolves and sweeps onward in her course, and the stars look down out of their dephts in silence. They who think the Lord's work can be carried forward only by noisy demonstration may consider with profit how many of his wonderful agencies work in silence. He has use for the noisy elements, but he owns the quiet as well.

D. Berger.

SEPTEMBER 9.

SEPTEMBER 10.

Mary J. Slover 1816

### WOMAN'S SPHERE.

Men may lead armies, preside over senates, quiet mobs, and convince multitudes, but women must love, not in illness, ignorance, or wantonness, but in action, intelligence, and piety. She must love to care for the sick and unfortunate, for the poor and outcast; must know how to apply remedies to body and soul. She must make the hard work of a teacher a labor of love; must be willing to take part against the crime and evil that oppress her own land; must, it might be, we can not tell, stand in the pulpit or at the bar, not in the manner of men, but in her own sacred type. Faithful, tender, and true should she be everywhere. But in the home, would that heaven might forbid that she should ever appear other than the queen of wisdom, virtue, and refinement. We need not say that in all her work, public and private, the one great object should be to enrich the kingdom of her Lord Jesus.

Miss Josephene Johnson.

#### THE LOGIC OF EVENTS.

What the world of fact is to the philosopher, that the field of life is to the minister of Christ. Acquaintance with what lies about us corrects our vagaries, breaks the tyranny of our preceptions, adapts and completes our views. We seek to lay our conscious ideas upon things, to force things into the line of our purposes; but we are, at the last, often compelled to receive enlightenment and perhaps correction from the events that we are seeking to shape. There is an unconscious as well as a conscious tide in this world's affairs. We are not to defer to events merely because of their force or rapid pace. We are to recognize that often the course of events is the logic of Providence; but we are also to bear in mind that whatever is of God, justifies itself to the divine word and the unquestioned principles of the gospel.

SEPTEMBER II.

SEPTEMBER 12.

#### THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.

Blot out the Christian Sabbath, and you blot out not it alone; for, as the fact that Christ rose from the dead gives vitality and validity to all that he said and did, so the commemorative ordinance of his resurrection stands preeminent among all the ordinances that he established, not only giving vitality and validity to the whole, but is the constant support and protection of the whole, so that to abrogate and ignore the Christian Sabbath is to do the same to all the adorning verdure and precious fruits of practical and experimental godliness which it bears, sending a withering blight upon the most hopeful expectations of the Christian world.

W. Davis.

## VISITORS AND CHURCH-ATTENDANCE.

When away from home, either among strangers or acquaintances, how many there are who willfully absent themselves from the house of God. Possibly the Sabbath passes without the sight of a worshiping assembly, and the day is spent in writing or looking around the town or city for objects of interest with which to while away the tedious moments. The excuse is often made, "I did not know where the church was," as though inquiry might not have been easily made which would have afforded the information. Perhaps a church is struggling in a city for existence. The hard-worked pastor is almost discouraged. His little band of earnest brethren and sisters are faithfully toiling, bearing heavy burdens. How they would be cheered and helped by the sympathy and words of a brother visiting the the city, especially if he be an old acquaintance.

T. D. Adams.

SEPTEMBER 13.

SEPTEMBER 14.

#### THE ALL-SEEING EYE.

When the photographer turns his camera toward any object, a perfect image of it is formed in the camera itself. Whether the object be near or remote, in the room where he is operating, a distant mountain, or a star in the depths of the heavens, the image is not seen as at a distance, but is formed with all the surroundings of the object itself, in his immediate presence, and directly under his eye. Protecting his eyes with a dark cloth, he sees distinctly every shade of position or form. So when the eye of God is turned upon us, perhaps out of the distant heavens, he sees us not only as here on earth and far removed from him, but rather as in his own instant presence. And he discerns us thoroughly, recognizing perfectly every lineament and shade of our being, and every conceivable condition and want of our nature. To the wicked the fact is one of terror and dismay; to the righteous and the humble penitent before God, it brings exceeding great comfort.

D. Berger

# TO WORKING-MEN.

If you would be free, if you would be successful, you must regard Christian principles and Christian institutions. It is God's house and God's word and God's church, which is constantly and persistently advocating the doctrines which affect the highest degree of civilization and human equality. If the commandment, "Remember, thou keep holy the Sabbath day," were respected and all public works would cease on that day, it would reduce the overproduction of the country, increase the demand for labor, and sooth and lengthen the lives of the toilers of the day. Remember that it was Jesus of Nazareth who taught first the universal brotherhood of man, and placed man high above gold, which perisheth. Thy money shall perish with thee, said Christianity, because thou thoughtest the gift of God could be purchased with money. "Life is more than money," is the doctrine of Christianity, and when you see this truth closely and realize it in the spirit of the Master, when you teach it to society, and incorporate it in your laws, you will have effected a revolution which will injure no one, but will harmonize every jarring interest and place every man where God intends he shall be, "equal before law and blessed before God."

SEPTEMBER 15.

Rev. Jacob B. Resler, 1821. Rev. Andrew J. Newgent, 1838.

1837

J. a. Cummens F. M. 183

[81]

#### WORKERS.

What the world needs is workers. It as yet owes you nothing. You owe it all there is of you—your thoughts, your emotions, your actions, your life. Whether your individual sphere in life shall be a public or private one, make it one full of good deeds. Have honest convictions, formed after careful deliberation, and give them courageous utterance. Be loyal to the truth, whatever be the consequences. Not only teach mankind how they shall live, but give them a correct example. None are under such obligations to mankind as you.

H. A. Thompson.

# THE JOY OF UNSELFISH SERVICE.

There is a joy in the very work of recovering the lost from sinful ways. There are certain exercises of a healthy body which give it great pleasure. There is a pleasure in eating and in employing the strength of the limb and body in honest toil. The husbandman and the father has untold joy in the toil which gives him the fruits of the earth which fill up in the granery a barricade against hunger or want in the home of his loved family. The wife and the mother finds every hour of toil a task of love and pleasure untold, since it ministers to those whom God has given her in such precious bands. She asks no reward, she thinks of no pain, she dreads no toil with a bounding heart that offers the life one long sweet libation of love. So does he who is in love with lost souls somewhat as Jesus loved the world, find a wondrous joy in the very toil which stretches out his emotions and thought and affection and faith, and puts them in full harness and flying speed after perishing fellow-men.

J. W. Hott.

# SEPTEMBER 17.

Rev. Henry W. Meredith, 1838. Mary Ann Share (Maud), 1842.

SEPTEMBER 18.

Rev. L. Bookwalter, A. M., 1846. Rev. W. M. Weekley, 1851.

#### CHRISTIAN CHARITY.

What an amiable and lovely thing is Christian charity. How lovely the mind tinctured throughout with this heavenly grace. How happy the man who has this heavenly fire glowing in his heart, flowing out of his mouth, and diffusing its warmth over all with whom he has to do. Oh! what a lovely thing would Christianity appear to the world, if all who profess it would pay due regard to that command on which its heavenly author laid such stress. "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another as I have loved you."

J. T. Vardaman.

# THE HAPPY HOME.

It does not require wealth to make a pleasant home. We have often passed by the large houses of the rich where all about them and within them seemed barren and chilly. Not far from them were the cottages of the poor. The trailing vines which found it easy to gain the roof, a rich, green sod, and flowers and shrubs, not always perhaps selected with the best taste, but revealing the love which planted and cared for them, gave ample evidence of the different atmosphere which prevailed within. A cheerful, pleasant, and inviting home takes work among the best blessings which a benevolent Father grants to any of his children on earth. Happy, indeed, are those families which are blessed with such a possession. Happy are those children that are brought up in such a home.

D. Berger.

SEPTEMBER 19.

1) la l'attricue ficher

SEPTEMBER 20.

#### GODLY TEACHERS.

If it be desired that our children be morally as well as intellectually educated, it is of the greatest importance that they have instructors who have personally embraced the truth as it is in Christ, and who will take a deep interest in the spiritual welfare of those committed to their care. The morals, the principles, the soul of the pupil are intrusted to the teacher's guardianship. Upon him more than any and all other persons and agencies their highest interests must depend during the critical years of college-life. Upon Christian principles and a Christian basis we contend the training of our children should be conducted. The principles of the gospel should have a permanent place and controlling influence in all our colleges.

J. J. Glossbrenner.

# SOURCE OF HIGHEST JOY.

We enjoy our homes. There is no place on earth more attractive. The beautiful pictures, the elegant paintings, the choice books, the furniture, all minister to our pleasure. But what in the home gives the children inexpressible delight? Is it not the presence of their parents? Is it not the love and communion of father and mother? So it is with the Christian. Far above the earth with its bounty, and the heavens which declare his glory, is God himself—the God of holiness and love. We joy in the Creator rather than his creatures. We have unfeigned faith in him. We think of him as a God who loves us, as a King who protects us, as a Father who pities and cares for us. And under the consciousness of his pardoning mercy and tender care, and our growing likeness to him, there comes to the believer untiring delight, so that he exclaims with one of old, "All my springs are in thee."

G. M. Mathews.

SEPTEMBER 21.

# SEPTEMBER 22.

Rev. G. W. Miles Rigor, 1831. Prof. Robert J. White, A. M., 1851.

#### THE WIFE.

In no situation in life does woman appear more like acting the part of a friend to man than when she becomes a wife. It is a tender and touching sight to see a maiden, in the bloom of youth, standing before the altar, leaning on the arm of him whom she has chosen to accompany through life. With what confidence she pronounces her part of the ceremony! She loves her brothers, sisters, parents, with a fervent love, but they do not exclude others; another image is enshrined in her heart. Trusting in the husband of her choice, she forsakes all to go forth to form new associations, and as an angel of mercy accompanies him along the journey of life. How slow to believe any evil of him! The world may load him with calumny and disgrace, but she heeds them not. To her he is pure and unsullied.

H. A. Thompson.

# THE CHAPEL OF THE MANGER.

We were kindly shown through all the portions of the church; and with tender thoughts looked again and again upon these narrow walls which once held a young mother, joyful at the birth of the long-promised Messiah. While the shepherds told the story of his birth, and the Magi went to their own land to relate the wonderful tidings, Mary, of royal womanhood, "kept all these things and pondered them in her heart." She had a deeper sorrow and pang; she experienced a higher joy and honor; she knew the secret of the Lord, but turned her loving, calm eyes on her infant child and worshiped God, and thought upon his mercy to the world and to his handmaiden. Oh, wondrous night! Oh, happy, blessed family, crowded from the inn to teach the world a lesson of loving humility to the end of time!

J. W. Hott.

SEPTEMBER 23.

SEPTEMBER 24.

Rev. J. H. Snyder, 1842.

# SUCCESS IN THE MINISTRY.

The great law of Christian kindness and human sympathy must be observed by the pastor in his relations to his people if he would be successful in winning them to Christ. Whatever of gifts or attainments as pertains to wisdom or grace the minister of the gospel may possess, he can not successfully reach the hearts of the people without the grace of Christian sympathy, and hence can not win them to Christ. As the summer's sun unlocks the frozen seas of winter and warms the elements of the material world, causing vegetation to spring up and the bosom of the earth to throb with life and gladness, so Christian sympathy warms and animates the hearts of those upon whom it is bestowed. It is a fountain breaking out in the desert, whose limpid waters refresh the souls of famishing ones as they traverse the plains of life to the world beyond.

Halleck Floyd.

#### CONSECRATION.

When will Christians respond to the demands of God, from the same considerations that move them to promptness and honesty in the ordinary business affairs of life? When will the demands of the church be no longer esteemed as the pitiful pleas of a beggar, but the lawful and appropriate requirements of her Lord? Not until the world is made to know that the bride of Christ does not beg when she asks for means to carry forward her proper work, but rightfully asks for a portion of what her Lord has intrusted to her stewardship; not until, in the spirit of entire consecration, the resources of each individual are fully placed upon the altar. Then, and not till then, will the means be furnished to carry forward the enterprises of the church upon a scale commensurate with the necessities of the world, and the sublime grandeur of the ends sought to be accomplished.

J. Hoke.

ada Wagner Gellett. 1887.

# SEPTEMBER 26.

Rev. Geo. Muth, 1798. Rev. Wm. B. Shinn, 1844. Rev. I. M. Moody, 1847.

# SAVE THE DRUNKARD.

Win him to Christ. Show mercy and kindness and charity to the drinker. Do not be like the priest and the Levite, pass by on the other side, but be like the good Samaritan: go to these unfortunate brothers of ours who have been overtaken by this enemy and shorn of their strength, reputation, fortune, and self-respect, and who lie along the highway robbed and bruised and helpless, and by the power of divine love and sympathy seek to lift them up, pour the oil of consolation into their wounds, speak to them words of tenderness and cheer, take them to the church, put your hearts under their hearts and your lives under their lives, and thereby win them to the Lord Jesus Christ and to a better life.

G. M. Mathews.

# TO THE BOYS.

Do you know that somewhere among your number are the boys who are going to be the future presidents, governors, judges, ministers, statesmen, physicians, thrifty merchants, farmers, teachers, professors, and thriving business men of this land? Now, who of your number are going to fill these honorable positions? Listen, and I will tell you. The boys who are obedient, polite, and kind to their parents, who shun tobacco, beer, rum, cigars, and cigarettes; who form no acquaintance with yellowbacked literature, theaters, and circus shows; who carefully save their clothes and their pennies; who diligently improve their time in reading valuable books; who, when in school, strive earnestly to master every lesson, and sacredly observe all the rules; who decide to take a thorough course in college and allow nothing to thwart their purpose.

I. L. Kephart.

SEPTEMBER 27.

SEPTEMBER 28.

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#### THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHER.

There must be a true understanding of the relation of children in Christ and the church. The mechanic must know the nature of the instrument to be used, and also the nature of the material upon which he is to work, or otherwise he will not secure the result sought. If the children are to be trained by the teacher and preacher so as to become efficient members of the church, both must understand the nature of the relation already existing as well as the one to be sought. These will determine the nature of the instruction to be given. If the children are held in the bonds of depravity, then they must be taught their condition and how to escape it. If they only need to have the children's Redeemer held up to them so their youthful affections may take hold of him, they will need a different kind of teaching.

H. A. Thompson.

# PREPARATION FOR DEATH.

We should seek to leave behind as good an influence as possible, and as little cause of trouble as can be avoided; and to do this every one should make the very best disposition of all earthly effects, so that there may not be any just cause of dispute and litigation which are so prevalent at the present day. The making of wills, conveyance of property, settlement of business, should all be attended to, and will be a great benefit to those we leave behind. Make as equitable a division of your property as you can; and do not forget to give something to the cause of religion that may help it on when you are quiet in the grave. To have your business well and legally arranged, and to provide liberally for the cause of Christ is the earth side of your duty, and more or less connects itself with the eternal side of your history, for we shall determine here what our future shall be.

B. F. Booth.

SEPTEMBER 29.

SEPTEMBER 30.

Rev. Dr. Daniel C. Kumler, 1807.

#### THY DISCIPLE.

Lord, I would be thy disciple; 'tis the longing of my heart; But the cross seems very heavy, and I hesitate to start. Help me, Savior, make the effort; strengthen me with heavenly grace, And permit me in thy vineyard to fulfill a humble place.

Lord, thou knowest how sincerely I desire to follow thee, How at times the cross seems heavy,—yea, almost to crush me; But I hear thy gentle wooing, "Wilt thou my disciple be?" And I hear thee also saying, "Take thy cross and follow me."

Shall I stop to mark the distance, or the seeming burden weigh?
Shall I halt though steep the mountain, rough and stony be the way?
Dare I say it is too heavy, and refuse to bear the load?
Thou didst bear it to the summit on that long and rugged road.

Shall I rather not be striving thy disciple e'er to be,
Bearing, suffering, singing, praying, anything to honor thee?
Blessed Jesus, loving Savior, help me bear the cross for thee;
I'll ne'er count it too great labor, since thou didst so much for me.

D. N. Howe.

# OCTOBER.

# VANQUISHED.

Out on a pleasant path, when years were few, And overbrimmed with expectation sweet, I started with my inexperienced feet Valiant all wrong to overcome and good to do.

Ah, this fair life that all were yet to see!
The life that was to hold no flaw nor stain,
But was to silence all the world's disdain—
The little world that in its limits counted me.

I was to have the gold without the dross, Drink youth's fair wine and leave the dregs below. What have the slow-revolving years to show, Save that my gain is perfect in its loss?

For I have walked where sermons led the way,
And lost from out my heart the olden trust—
Have heard the words of anguish, "Dust to dust,"
When heaven seemed deaf to all despair could say.

And I have seen the strength that was my boast Reduced to naught before temptation's power; And human love has failed me in the hour Of all sore hours, when it was needed most.

I wander on and find no wayside inn,—
No resting-place my longing eyes to greet.
The dust clings to my tired, aching feet;
And I am lost where I had meant to win.

Alas, alas, sweet Savior, pity me;
The blinding mist is thick before my eyes!
Point me to what beyond the valley lies,
And hold me with thy strong arm tenderly.

Maud (Mary A. Share).

# AN APPEAL TO EDUCATE.

Books and schools are accessible to all. There is no young man or young lady too poor to acquire an education. Will you be satisfied then, while you possess ten or a hundred times the facilities your fathers possessed, to go exactly in their tracks? Will you neglect to use your faculties and make proportionate progress, or will you resolve at once to be what God designed you to be? If you have the heart to make the resolution, set about its accomplishment at once. Fix upon the point to which you wish to attain, then bend all your energies to accomplish that object. Try it. Try hard, persevere, and you will gain the prize.

J. Haywood, 1851.

# TO MOTHERS.

What the future generation is to be depends upon what the mothers of to-day are. Physically, mentally, and morally the mother more than any one else holds the destiny of the child in her hand. But what are the mothers of to-day doing in the direction of making their children physically healthy and sound? Does the training daughters of fashionable mothers are to-day receiving at the hands of these mothers tend to health and symmetry of body? To secure these, the body must have daily exercise in the open air. How many of these fashionable daughters take such exercise? Sunlight is essential to health. To secure and preserve good health requires the observing of regular hours, regular meals, and wholesome food properly cooked. Fashionable mothers permit these rules to be violated. How, then, can the evils be remedied? Let the mothers break the iron chains of fashion, and instead of training their daughters to be weakly, sickly, pale-faced, hollow-eyed, wasp-waisted, sentimental butterflies of · fashion, let them give to them from their infancy such training, physically, mentally, and morally, as is in harmony with the laws of good health.

I. L. Kephart.

OCTOBER 1.

Rev. Isaac Crouse, 1827.

OCTOBER 2.

# THE OBJECT OF PREACHING.

The preacher's mission is the sublime, may I say almost superhuman, effort of bringing the human will into harmony with the divine, which must result in the destruction of sin; for sin is the antagonism of the two wills. This heroic effort once engaging a Savior's heart, is now delegated by commission to chosen men, and requires moral force as the complement of intellectual power. On the human side, the preacher has to do with man's will. We preach to the intellect and to the heart; but these two are only the double-door entrances through which we approach the will,—this adamantine fort, man's Gibraltar, which is the last and greatest resistance to the gospel. He is the strongest preacher who can pound the hardest upon the ponderous gate of man's will. On the divine side, the preacher has to do with God. The secret of his power here lies in union and communion with Deity; and this he uses in his struggle to bring God and man together.

J. W. Etter

#### DECISION OF CHARACTER.

The history of religion furnishes us the most noted instances of decision and stability of character of which we have any record in the annals of the world. Such traits in human character are born of a heroic moral courage. Look at Moses, who delivered the children of Israel from their bondage in Egypt; Joshua, the statesman of spotless character, and the successful leader of God's people; David, the king; Elijah and Daniel, prophets; Paul, the apostle, all of whom under the most trying circumstances stood true to their principles and their God against the greatest oppression and cruelty. And among the names of these worthies we may well enroll the names of Wycliffe, who gave to England the Bible in the mother tongue; Martin Luther, who gave to the world an open Bible, and broke the shackles of free thought; John Bunyan, the hero of Bedford Jail; John Knox, who delivered Scotland from the power of her political and ecclesiastical enemies; John Wesley, the enthusiastic and courageous reformer; Columbus, the discoverer of America, and hosts of others, living and dead, whose names are cherished with affectionate regard.

M. R. Drury.

OCTOBER 3.

OCTOPER 4.

Bishop Nicholas Castle, 1837.

#### THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

The kingdom of our Father in heaven carries with it holy purity to banish loathsome corruption. It gives obedience instead of alienation from God, happiness instead of misery, joy and liberty instead of bondage and despair, the glory of God instead of satanic shame, and salvation instead of damnation. It raises man up in the scale of civilization. It gives a new spirit to society and to the nations of the earth. It gives light instead of the pall of moral darkness. It rejoices heaven and earth instead of grieving Christ and the holy angels. Every soul saved from sin and brought to the paradise of God, saves an immeasurable degree of degradation and woe, and gives an infinity of noble well-being and of bliss and glory.

M. Wright.

# THE QUIET LIFE.

Uneasy rests the head which wears the crown. Posts of honor and power are not posts of genuine pleasure. The duty laid upon each of us is to develop our own manhood and womanhood, and then shed the influence which must come from such a life in whatever sphere we may act. The moon is not as large as the sun, nor does it shed as much light, but to the benighted traveler it is just as acceptable. The world's heroes are not all found on the tented field, nor at the head of armies, nor speaking to admiring senators, but wherever men and women come face to face with and grapple with the problem of destiny. They are found in the lowly and lonely cottage, by the side of the sick infant in the hospital, by the bedside of the dying, in the marts of trade, in the slums of the cities, wherever men and women hear and obey the voice of Him who speaks to the inner consciousness the words of everlasting truth.

H. A. Thompson.

OCTOBER 5.

# OCTOBER 6.

Rev. Wm. B. Leggett, 1846. Rev. R. C. Thomas, 1853.

#### HEART-EXPERIENCE.

To turn men from the error of their ways, and to guide them when turned, is enough to challenge the capacities of the wisest and best man in the world. Men, to do this work, need experience—a deep, an abiding, and an ever-fresh and living experience; an experience that is heavenly, that is from above, that is divine. No man is competent to teach his fellowman the way to heaven whom the Holy Ghost has not already taught the way. A genuine Christian experience, a genuine change of heart, a Holy Ghost regeneration, is the base-rock of a divinely-appointed minister of the gospel. A man without this may be a man-appointed minister, but never a God-appointed embassador.

G. P. Macklin.

#### ETERNITY.

However quiet all things beyond may seem to us now, there are scenes transpiring which, if we could see, would thrill our souls through and through. If it were a matter of choice with us to stay here or go there, we might settle the matter at once and remain on this side, and then give ourselves no further concern about the hereafter. But it is not left to our choice. The matter is settled, once and forever. We must know by experience what it is to be in eternity. Each must realize in the full light of eternity what it is to be saved or lost. If it is beyond our power to imagine what the ecstacy of the soul of the saint will be as it enters the home of the angels, how much more is it beyond our power to imagine what the anguish of that doomed spirit will be as it passes into the beyond with the full consciousness, "I am lost forever."

J. Weaver.

OCTOBER 7. Ada de de 1 1 1 1 1 1 69

OCTOBER 8.

#### SHAPING CHARACTER.

In cutting glass it is not necessary to make a cut that shall extend down through the entire thickness of the sheet to be severed. It is sufficient that but a slender thread going but little beneath the surface shall be traced with the diamond, and from this the further breaking will be easily accomplished. So in the destruction of character it frequently happens that but a very slight abrasion at the first will tend in time to results that are an overwhelming surprise. In dealing with questions of first principles in character-building the teacher has an important mission before his class.

D. Berger.

# TO THEOLOGICAL STUDENTS.

Our age is stimulated to the highest degree. Satan is bestirring himself to the utmost. God's people must not be less wise or intense. New measures are being used in Christian work. Invention is being taxed for new expedients. In this state of things some would throw away their books, discard the accepted guides in religion, rush wildly into the field of action, and resort to cheap expedients for present effect. Some may accomplish a measure or a species of good in this way; but you probably are not called to this method of action. Should the church in general take this course, Christianity would be be degraded before the intelligence of man, and true religion would be turned into spiritual jugglery or buffoonery. Rather, if our natures are to be brought up to a high key, if our action is to be intense, if we are to be surrounded by a bewildering maze of fiercely-contending forces, if we are to be given no time for devising, no opportunity for retraction, then let us know at the beginning what we are to do. Let us gather all wisdom to our aid, collect our strength, take our bearings, secure our balance, and then make our plunge. A cool head must accompany a warm heart.

A. W. Drury.

OCTOBER 9.

OCTOBER 10.

Harry Jenny 1849,

## NEARNESS TO GOD.

How happy is the condition of him who draws nigh to God and there abides continually. Notice, there is no command to his children to depart from him. There may they abide—there rejoice. What sunshine does his presence afford! What a glorious hope in the presence of his countenance! What strength is imparted by his vitality! What consuming of sin, what purifying in his presence! In the sunshine of his grace, irrigated by the streams of life, how does every virtue flourish, and every heavenly fruit grow and ripen! What comfort, what happiness, what security is afforded, what triumph over sin, what victory over death, and what a glorious hope of immortality cheers him who thus draws nigh to God.

M. Wright.

## IMMORTALITY.

Hail, immortality, unsetting sun of light and cheer! With it are embraced all thoughts that lift man up and that illumine his abode amid the struggles and confusion of time. There is an inspiration not of earth, nor bounded by its narrow limits; for it sweeps onward and upward to the great white throne, and reposes satisfied in the presence of Deity. We revel in the thought that our beloved departed are safe in the immortal home, and await our arrival there, where amid the millions of spirits made perfect ours will be recognized and greeted. How the very thought urges us to greater devotion to Christ and more kindness and helpfulness toward every human being. We may safely conclude that every doctrine that brings us comfort, refines us, and makes us better, is of God and is true. Every longing desire, the thought of which improves us in our conduct toward God and man, is founded in reason, proceeds from God, and is worthy of belief. The thought of immortality is hailed with delight. It finds a hearty response in man's soul, gives him comfort and joy, and may therefore in reason as well as revelation be accounted as worthy of our confidence; and upon its cheerful bosom we may rest our weary heads and joyfully await the coming morning, "when death shall be swallowed up in victory." B. F. Booth.

OCTOBER II.

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OCTOBER 12.

# WORK FOR ALL.

It frequently happens in churches that most of the active management is done by a few persons. Sometimes this is so by the preference of those who take little part in the direction of affairs—they are glad to have others do what they do not care to do themselves. At other times this condition arises out of the arbitrary disposition of a small circle of those who aspire to be the leaders. They are not anxious to have others divide this care with them, and in various ways give them to understand that their counsels and assistance, further than in the pecuniary part, are not needed. That is the wisest management which finds for all the members something to do. Men will be most interested in that which they have a part in doing. Their time, exertion, and money will be found ready to command when they are made true sharers in the work.

D. Berger.

#### KEEPING RELIGION.

The great mistake is that many persons seem to think they can get a stock on hand which will last a month or more. But that can not be done. The Israelites tried it on the manna business; but it was a failure. They had to get it fresh every day, except on Sunday. In like manner we must go to the Fountain every day. No, that is not the better way to express it. The right and only safe plan is to go to the Fountain and stay there, and drink every day. Religion on Sunday is not a bad thing; but it is not enough. The pattern is too short; it must be full seven days long. Many go to church on Sunday and get somewhat stirred up. They get a taste of the water of life, and then conclude that this will last all week. Religion was intended to keep us; and it will do it if we keep on hand a good supply. We must have a good quality—what James calls "pure religion;" and then we must have a good quantity.

OCTOBER 13.

Rev. J. C. Bright, 1818.

OCTOBER 14.

Rev. Simeon Austin, 1818.

#### TRUE WISDOM.

Would you be wise,—not only be thought so, but be really so,—study the Scriptures. By them you will get more understanding than the ancients—than all your teachers. Make your observations upon the carriage and miscarriage of others, that you may take pattern by those who do well and take warning by those who do ill—may look upon both and receive instruction. But especially be earnest with God in prayer for wisdom as Solomon was—and the prayer was both pleasing and prevailing in heaven. If any man, if any young man, lack wisdom, and is sensible that he lacks it, he is directed what to do. His way is plain. Let him ask it of God. And he is encouraged to do it; for the Lord giveth wisdom. He has it to give, he delights to give it, and he gives liberally. He has a peculiar eye to young people in the dispensing of his gifts; for his word was written to give to the young man knowledge and discretion.

J. J. Glossbrenner.

#### SMILES.

There are out-in-company smiles and alone-at-home smiles. It is a very nice accomplishment to wear a smile of proper length and breadth at a missionary tea, a social party, and wedding or any festive occasion, only it seems a pity that sometimes the muscles which make up this proper smile grow so tired-by the time the wearer of it reaches home, the admired smile is either gone entirely or has merged into a smirky smile or a scornful smile. There are smiles of sympathy. How much they say! When one is listening to some subtle argument, to some eloquent flight of oratory, to some sweeetly-thrilling song, or looking with admiration, verging into love, upon some rare, rich scene of God's own hand-painting - when the softest word would break the charm - how just a little smile of recognition from one who appreciates it as you do makes your heart throb and grow full of joy and thanks. There are sunny smiles, as full of life, heat, and blessing, as our noonday sun when the spring-time comes. Happy the home if but one inmate thereof brightens it with these heart-growing, sunshiny smiles!

Isadore S. Bash.

OCTOBER 15.

OCTOBER 16.

[20]

#### EDUCATION.

Education is the handmaid of religion. It was a powerful auxiliary in the Reformation of the sixteenth century. It was then, and is now, a destructive ally against popery, and all forms of skepticism and infidelity. No church has flourished, or can flourish, that neglects the higher education. If we would secure permanency and enjoy a flourishing growth in cities and towns of the country, we must go to them in the person of men of deep and broad heart and head culture—men possessing an accurate and general acquaintance with men and things. With such men in the field, we must succeed. Failure is impossible. The past has taught us that we can not get such men from the institutions of the state. What must be done? We must educate them ourselves, or perish. We can not hold our present ground unless we educate. No people will be stable and continue permanent without education. A religion that is not founded on knowlege and fortified by education will not endure.

R. Rock.

#### MARKS OF PROGRESS.

The present brilliant illumination of our cities with electric lights marks an important step in the progress of civilization. With wonderful strides have art and invention advanced within the memory of middle-aged people. Many of these recall readily the excitement that was felt when the first short line of the electric telegraph was found to work successfully, and even the surprise that was created by the first sight of the quick flash of a Lucifer match. Now the telegraph wires traverse the seas, and cast their net-work round the world, while in the cities the telephone wires fill the air like the webs of monster weaver's looms. From the present powerful illuminators, which cast shadows of human and other objects many hundreds of feet, back to the lighting apparatus of less than half a century ago, seems now like an amazing distance. The electric lights, illuminating gas, coal-oil, lard-oil, tallow molds, or dips, and pine knots, mark the several gradations; and there are men not very old who have employed the service of all. The world is advancing in thought, in methods, in the intensity of its life. In the midst of this stirring, moving, palpitating life it is important that the light of truth shine forth with an intense radiance. It should blaze forth with a brightness and power augmented D. Berger. like that of the electric illuminator.

# OCTOBER 17.

OCTOBER 18.

#### PRACTICAL HOLINESS.

That person who makes it the first object of life to please God and do good to man is holy, is sanctified. It is not physical, it is moral purity. The begrimed chimney-sweep may shine with holiness. The hand befouled in honest toil may be clean from iniquity—be holy. It is not pure blood, but a pure mind. It does not consist in starch and polish, but righteousness of spirit and uprightness of conduct. Holiness loves its enemies, and returns good for evil. It is humble without baseness, bold without impudence, plain and faithful, but not hateful and abusive.

S. Sutton.

# THE TRUTH OF THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION.

The Christian religion bears the seal of truth in itself. Jesus Christ is its fountain and founder. It rests upon his person and work. Faith in his person and work is the ground of our salvation, for this brings men into communion with God the Father. If Christ is what he claimed to be, his religion is true. And who can show that he was not what he claimed to be? But the doctrines of Christ also attest the truthfulness of the Christian religion. He taught with authority. The prophets said, "Thus saith the Lord." But Jesus said, "So say I." The doctrines of Christ are just suited to the wants of every man. Hence the Christian religion is destined to be the religion of the whole world. Then, all who believe in Jesus experience the power of God in being created anew in the image of God and in being sanctified through the Holy Ghost. The Christian religion is from God and leads to God. It is the religion that makes men happy in time and eternity. It is what the soul of man needs and what God approves.

# OCTOBER 19.

Rev. Wm. R. Rhinehart, 1800. Rev. James E. Bowersox, 1817.

John St. Galloway. 1871. Orville E. Russell 1880

OCTOBER 20.

Rev. L. L. Hager, 1825.

#### THE BAPTISM OF POWER.

If need be, I would stop every item of machinery in the Church—our colleges, seminaries, and printing-press; yes, I would stop all our missionaries in the field, all our bishops, pastors, editors, teachers, and agents, everything,—until we receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. But some one may say that we could not afford to lose so much time. Better lose forty days from active work and receive the baptism of power than attempt to go forward without it. The apostles gained time by waiting for the Holy Spirit, for when he came they did more in a day than they could have done in months without it. But we need not stop our machinery. We can work right on, trusting and praying. But come as it may, we must have the baptism of the Holy Spirit or lose all power for doing good. To receive this much-needed power we must make a full and complete consecration of all we have and are to God.

I. Weaver.

# THE TOMB OF OUR SAVIOR.

Upon the occasion of a second visit to the tomb of Christ I found an experience quite unlike to that of the first. I was alone. It was no disappointment that my Lord was not there. I looked not for the appearance of the angels. It was to an empty tomb that I approached. The resurrection scene rose before me like a pageant of spiritual glory. I was on the other side of the grave. I stood beside the vacated tomb. It was the empty tomb of our crucified and risen Lord. I had often stood by the grave prepared for the reception of the dead; I had often knelt at the grave where buried loved ones had been placed to moulder back to the unwelcome dust. Not so now, by some wonderful transition I was now on the deathless side of the tomb. I knelt in the foot-prints of the feet which had gotten up and walked out of the dominion of death. I was on the other side of the tomb; somewhere between the grave and the gate of the heavenly city. Jesus and the angels were there. Around me were collected the glorified with whom the bitterness of death is past. It was a precious hour; it was a heavenly moment. I was beyond the touch and sting of death. I was crowned with the victory over the grave. I was on the eternal side of all things. I was where there is no death; neither sorrow nor crying. Even now I seem to wish I could gather up my loved ones and be again and forever there. J. W. Hott.

OCTOBER 21.

OCTOBER 22.

#### ALEXANDER OWEN'S HOME.

In Mr. Owen's home we found what we have always regarded as the most perfect family government we have ever known. The children at the time of which we write were numerous, and all of them young. There might be ample occasion for conflicts and miniature rebellions, but we never saw any. Nor did we ever hear any hurried or emphatic words, or see any special exhibition of authority. Yet authority, quiet, steady, unyielding, was there, and obedience seemed perfect. We will not here undertake to say to whom, the dead or the living, the greater honor for this belongs; but we refer to the fact as presenting a strong negative to a common allegation against the government and training of ministers' families.

D. Berger.

## LASTING IMPRESSIONS.

How lasting are the impressions of childhood and the memories of home. What our mothers do there will never be forgotten. The smiles, the kind words, the counsels, the prayers, the tears, how fondly the memory treasures them all up; and in after-years, when home is broken up and mother laid in the grave, when time has crowded out many recollections or buried them deeply beneath the rubbish of perplexing cares, still the true heart will never lose the impressions of youth nor cease to thank God upon every remembrance of a pious, good, devoted mother. A dying soldier whispered three words—the sweetest in our language—"mother, country, God." Should every idea I ever acquired through life fade from my memory, these three thoughts would be the last and most sacred—my mother, who makes my home; my country that gives me liberty; my God, who saves mother and country.

I. W. Etter.

OCTOBER 23.

Rev. J. L. Luttrell, 1829.

OCTOBER 24.

Rev. Chester Briggs, 1821.

#### RIGHT TO BE HAPPY.

Why should we not rejoice, we who are children of a King; we whose sins have been blotted out, and a hope of eternal life born within us? Hath not the inspired apostle said, "For all things are yours; whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; and ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's." If there is a man in all the universe who has a right to rejoice and to sing songs daily, it is the man described above, who is the heir of all things. How we misrepresent our relationship when we go mourning all the day, constantly bemoaning our poverty, and yet gloriously rich; bewailing our weakness, yet heirs to all strength; grieved at what seems only humble birth, yet children of the King of kings; sad that our years must soon close, and yet heirs of everlasting life. Alas! we are ungrateful children of an indulgent Father.

H. A. Thompson.

# THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILDREN.

. The extent of human government can not be compassed successfully. Govern the youth, and a large share of their comfort and happiness is secured. It extends from their earliest years, with tottering feet and lisping tongue, through a maturer life to man, as a shock of corn, ready to be gathered to his fathers. It has to do with the boy from the home to the school. It is not a surface-work, but enters the life of a pupil, and follows him into the holy of holies of his profoundest experiences. It goes with him into manhood and business life, pronouncing upon him benedictions or breathing forth curses. It is with him in the obligations of his fatherhood, and strengthens or weakens him in these the most important ties of human life. It pursues him in his recognition of the brotherhood of man, and supports him as a philanthropist or enthrones as a misanthrope. It enters into his character, and can not be bound by the lines of earthly measurements, reaching within the discovered but unrevealed relations of that "country where the mystery of this strange life is solved, and the most needy heart must lay down its burden at last."

W. M. Beardshear.

# OCTOBER 25.

Bishop John Coons, 1797. Rev. Elias Van Demark, 1805.

OCTOBER 26.

Rev. Jacob S. Kessler, 1812.

#### "THAT SETTLES ALL."

We remember reading of an old Scotchman who was accustomed, when some point was in dispute, to say, "Hand me your Bible; that settles all." Now, of course we understand that there are some questions which the Bible does not propose to settle. There are some such questions in science, in history, and in other fields of inquiry and thought. But all the great questions relating to our conduct in life are fully settled in the word of God. In it God has laid down the rules by which we must live. And he is a wise man who daily studies these rules as settled by God himself, and does his utmost to shape his life according to the principles God has laid down.

D. Berger.

#### TRIBUTE TO OTTERBEIN.

He was a man of great activity. In labors he was abundant. He was instant in season and out of season. Impressed with the importance of his work, and also with the limited time in which to do it, he consecrated himself, soul, body, and spirit, to its accomplishment. He was a man of superior talent and learning. His fine powers of imagination seldom failed to furnish him with the most happy allusions and illustrations that enabled him to bring the truth within the grasp of all his hearers. He studied men rather than oratory. He was a man of pure and spotless character. He had the greatest regard and reverence for the laws of God. Light, chaffy, and trifling conversation found no ready listener in him. Yet he was a pleasant and affable Christian gentleman, and easy of approach to all. He was a man of great benevolence. It is stated by those who knew him personally that he literally gave away all he acquired. Servant of the living God, farewell. With sad hearts and eyes red with weeping we turn away from thy honored grave on Howard Hill to mingle with thy spirit and to transfer the excellences of thy pure and useful life I. Baltzell. into our own.

# OCTOBER 27.

Rev. W. W. Richardson, 1811. Prof. J. P. Landis, D. D., 1843.

16.

OCTOBER 28.

Vi . ,

Still !

1:6-2,

#### EDUCATED MEN.

Who first conceived the glorious idea of sending the gospel to heathen countries from the American churches? Who have been and are now the most able defenders of our holy religion? What class of men are now being used under God to give the Scriptures to all nations under heaven? How you delight to read the Scriptures in your own native tongue. Do you know the instrument used in giving you this precious treasure? Examine your library, and ask yourself the question, Who wrote those admirable works in defense of that religion which is dearer to you than life? In all these cases the answer is one and ever the same—EDUCATED MEN.

L. Davis, 1852.

## JOY IN GETTING HOME.

Have you ever been away from your father's house, and for a long time have not seen his face? Then you know what it is to visit the scenes of your childhood, to enter the threshold of the old homestead, to behold the face of him who tenderly loved you, to grasp the hand of him who sheltered you from the storm, to sit by the side of him who guided your youth, bore with your infirmities, soothed your sorrows, and bestowed on you the ministries of a father's love. Ah! I know of no place on earth more sacred than father's house. I know of no company more precious than father's company. But think of the joy that shall fill our souls when we arrive at the eternal home, enter our Father's house, and behold his face in righteousness, and by the power of his infinite tenderness and love be drawn into such nearness with him as to repose in his bosom with infinite satisfaction and delight.

G. M. Matheres.

OCTOBER 29.

OCTOBER 30.

J. Edward Grimes

#### THE BLESSEDNESS OF GIVING.

There are some blessings that people generally do not seek for. Is it because we do not believe the word, or is it because the love of this world aud self have been allowed to bind us with chains that can not be broken? The apostle says, "Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed [that is, it is a greater happiness] to give than to receive." Reader, have you ever given till you were real happy? Are you afraid to try it? Take God's word for it, and give to him of your earthly stores till you are happy. Somewhere we have seen the record of a very short missionary sermon. It was this text: "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth to the Lord;" sermon, "If you like the security, down with the cash." Do we not miss the blessing by not having full confidence in the security? The blessing does not come to those only who give large sums, but to every one who gives "as the Lord has prospered him." Neither does he whom the Lord has given great wealth receive the full measure of blessing, by giving only as much as a neighbor who is not worth half as much as he. There is no doubt, - there is always a blessing; blessing in the consciousness that we have the means of doing good; blessing in entering into fellowship with God, who is always giving; blessing in the knowledge that some one has joy by our giving. To secure this blessing, giving must not be done to keep up appearances, or to be like other people, or to gain a reputation; but first having received Christ himself into our hearts we are impelled, not compelled, to give; and when we fully "know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for our sake he became poor," we will never feel that we have given him enough. We are responsible to God for all we have, and should carry on our business here as "unto the Lord." Oh! that we might all believe and fully realize the blessedness of giving.

Treadie E. (Bause) Russell 

#### GATHER THE HARVEST IN.

Behold the harvest fields are white, Gather the harvest in; Amid the blaze of gospel light, Gather the harvest in.

Young toilers in the Master's cause, Gather the harvest in; Fear not to shun the world's applause, Gather the harvest in.

Let every servant of the Lord,
Gather the harvest in;
And have their sheaves securely stored,
Gather the harvest in.

Then when our work on earth is done,
We'll shout the harvest home;
And then with God's beloved Son,
We'll shout the harvest home.
S. J. Graham.

# GOING HOME AT LAST.

The evening shades are falling, Our sun is sinking fast; The holy One is calling, We're going home at last.

The road's been long and dreary,
The toils come thick and fast;
In body weak and weary,
We're going home at last.

We now are nearing heaven,
And soon shall be at rest;
Our crowns will soon be given,
We're going home at last.

Oh, praise the Lord forever, Our sorrows are all past; We'll part no more, no never, We are at home at last.

W. Gossett.

# NOVEMBER.

#### A PRAYER.

O God! thou canst thy people hear;
Forever open is thine ear.
As incense sweet their prayers arise
Before thy throne above the skies.
Oh let a trembling mortal now
Before thy footstool humbly bow,
And ask for grace thy will to do,
While storms and conflicts passing through.

Forbid that Satan's fiery dart Shouldst reach thy servant's trusting heart. Forbid that he should wounded fall, Or cast away his shield, like Saul. Why should Philistia's chiefs rejoice, And triumph in thy people's loss? Thou hast all power, and none can stay Thy potent arm upraised to slay.

Kingdoms arise at thy command,
And fall in ruins by thy hand;
The proud waves can not overflow
When thou shalt say, "No further go."
I would be thine and do thy will;
O bid my stormy fears be still,
And give a quiet to my soul,
Like Galilee's, at thy control.

L. L. Hager.

#### A GOOD TIME.

To many, a good time means an unceasing round of pleasure—of dancing, of theaters, of euchre-parties, of gay dissipation and frivolity. With some it means the wine-cup, the saloon, rude and boisterous hilarity, and even inebriation. The really good time is that which takes hold on the purer and ennobling things of life; the things which conduce to the development of the highest and truest forms of manhood and womanhood; the things which please God and lead to eternal life.

D. Berger.

# THE DIGNITY OF THE MINISTRY.

The preacher is to fill a wonderful sphere of influence. Were the pulpit silenced, and no one left to proclaim the gospel, the world would soon lapse into heathenism; but ministers become guardians of public virtue, and propagators of the true spirit of progress. It has been observed that nearly all our colleges were originated by ministers, and that many of our cities and towns were founded by them in the wilderness. They stimulate thoughtfulness, morality, manliness, Christianity, and all the virtues of a community, which are forerunners of its advancement. They elevate society and radiate an influence that lives the longest and deepest in the hearts of its recipients. Every one born into the kingdom of God, and kept there through their labors, is a lasting monument of their efforts, living to perpetuate the greatness of their work, not only to the third and fourth generations, but through the eternal ages.

November 1.

NOVEMBER 2.

#### THE HIGHER TRAINING.

Our mental training fits us for the present life; our moral training is for the life which lies beyond. And since our present life is but a fragment of our real existence, how much more important is it that the work for the future exceed the work for the present. Mind-culture and soulculture should go together as handmaids; but let the culture of the soul be elevated above the culture of the mind. An idiotic brain is no barrier to the tree of life; but an educated mind, however developed, destitute of the proper moral training, can never enter the gates of the upper city. A sanctified mind and a sanctified life give assurance of a glorious future.

J. H. Snyder.

#### SETTLED CONVICTIONS.

There are many who see the right on all moral questions. They can not help seeing it if they but open their eyes. But what we want is more men who not only see, but feel duty; into whose very souls truth and the love of it are burned. None but such can be relied upon in the world's fierce and trying moral conflicts. Others shrink and often betray the most sacred trusts. But while the conventional adherents of truth thus in the hour of trial desert her, those who from principle love her stand faithful and unmoved by her side. While the world's stage has been disgraced by many scenes in which none but moral cowards played a part, it has also been honored by the deeds and lives, the martyr deaths, of most heroic men. They have under God preserved his truth untainted, in spite of surrounding error and corruption, and kept the world's movement steadily onward. They deserve the gratitude of every age that has followed them, and of ages yet to come.

L. Bookwalter.

NOVEMBER 3.

NOVEMBER 4.

Jama Snoke Magnes. 1857.

#### SYMPATHY WITH THE SORROWING.

We walk to eternity amid the graves of our loved ones. In the bustle and toil and care of life we overlook the fact that at every hand and on every side of us men and women and even children carry sorrowing hearts. What mean these wailings of mothers' broken hearts which come up from beside the little snow-white and flower-wreathed caskets in which sleeps the angel form, which, dying, took out a part of the mother's heart? Do they not tell us of the deathless love of a mother? Hear those deep throbbings of the strong man's heart as he kneels beside the dying form of a darling daughter or a loved son. They are the deep tones of the soul as it vibrates under the touch of the death-hand reaching out from eternity. They are the wailings of the heart awfully chastened by mortality. Still, they tell us the tremendous power and struggle of love in moments when its object goes down in the seething whirlpool of death. Hast thou never had thine own heart-strings broken? Hast thou never listened to that inexpressibly pitiful cry of the orphan who looked for the last time in the dead face of a loving mother, and didst thou not feel thy heart sinking within thee? J. W. Hott.

# INSPIRATION OF THE CROSS.

Under the light of the cross, in sight of the nails and the spear, and in hearing of the heart-rending and soul-piercing cries of the anointed of God, we catch the healing stream, are baptized with the prophetic fire, and filled with evangelical love. In the light of the cross differences are forgotten, prejudices fade away, and race and color, advantages and disadvantages of birth and education, are thrown into the background, while geographical differences between distinct nationalities shorten, and under the powerful microscope of truth form the central foreground of the great dramatic picture of evangelism. Let such a picture be hung upon the walls of every church-house in our Zion, and studied by all our people: chalked upon the blackboard in every Sunday-school throughout the church, and explained to one hundred and seventy thousand young men and women, boys and girls, every Sabbath in the year. Yea more, let it be sketched upon the parlor and kitchen walls of fifty thousand homes of the church, and in a few brief months depleted treasuries will be replenished, and abundant means supplied for the extension and prosecution of our mission-work. J. L. Luttrell.

NOVEMBER 5.

NOVEMBER 6.

Bishop E. B. Kephart, D. D., 1834.

#### MUCH TO BE DONE.

If all the heathen, those who never heard of Christ, were arranged in one unbroken line, giving every man one foot of space on which to stand, the line would go around the world more than six times, or one line six men deep; and if we should allow each file of six men one minute—just one—to look in that door and ask the all-important question, "What must I do to be saved?" it would take two hundred and fifty years for that line to pass; and when the last one had passed, the first would be many years in heaven or hell, according as you and I have done our duty faithfully. Oh reader, there is much to be done; and it must be done quickly, too.

G. A. Funkhouser.

# ABOUT DIFFERENCES.

Differences are not usually very serious if kept within the compass of the doctrine and spirit of the thirteenth chaper of I. Corinthians. Somebody says there is more than seeing on all sides of a thing. "It is to have the charity to believe that there is still another side." We must not think the bottom's out of the universe because our pint cup has sprung a leak. I believe it was Lyman Beecher that said the politicians have had the country ruined a great many times. This is quite common when some cherished scheme does not succeed, or when some views or measures of the opposite party obtain. We may think all is lost because certain things prevail that we greatly disrelish, and with which we have long been out of conceit.

N. Castle.

NOVEMBER 7.

(W. In . Beardshear 1850

marsha. 1 1 1. 1872.

NOVEMBER 8.

# THE WORD OF GOD.

Here are the breathings of holy love, the songs of praise and joy, the humble and contrite confession and the ecstacy of pardon, reproof for the transgressor, instruction for the ignorant, comfort for the comfortless, joy for the sorrowing, promise and hope for the despairing, mercy for the penitent, and everlasting life for the believing. The Bible carries with it a holy atmosphere: and he who lives much in the Bible breathes in this divine influence, which is as refreshing and invigorating to his spiritual nature as the June atmospheric air is to his physical system. This divine truth is the nutriment of the soul, upon which, if it feed, it will grow fat and become "strong in the Lord."

J. P. Landis.

# PUBLIC SPIRIT.

Men are per force social beings, and there are a thousand concessions and contributions that each is called to make to the general good. A response to these calls, without the hope of individual return, is very analogous to the disinterested care the Deity has for men. But the general welfare and the improvement of the individual fortune are inseparable. Rarely anything is given for the public benefit that does not return, increased many times, to reward the generous giver. If we were called upon to designate the unworthiest of men, we would instinctively point to the person destitute of public spirit. The man whose concern reaches not beyond himself is undeserving of human associations, and he who can consent within himself to enjoy the benefits and immunities purchased by the money and toil of others is a very incubus on the body of society. Nothing is more certain than that such selfishness defeats its own ends.

A. W. Drury.

NOVEMBER 9.

NOVEMBER 10.

Maiss Evaltheat 1882. Janus L. Mer 18.60

#### HOME MEMORIES.

There is much that unites the heart about our childhood homes. There is a tenderness, a slow sadness that comes to us when we remember all the past; and see how changed is all, save the love of those who still remain, which has grown purer and stronger. In the presence of all this, the heart bows down before friendship, love, and change. But in the old home-church, where childhood first learned to love and trust God; at the old, familiar spot where day after day through years, in lonely, secret, struggling prayer the soul found help in Christ and plighted itself away to him again and again,—in these places,—the heart breaks down before the Lord, and the flames of a new life seem to be kindling. It is worth miles and even days of travel to be able to put down the knees on the same old spot, and there empty the heart to the same God. But why does memory connect these two places with each other? Why has God connected them? The Christian knows why.

J. W. Hott.

## WALKING WITH GOD.

"And Enoch walked with God: and he was not: for God took him." The meaning here is that he enjoyed constant communion with Jehovah. The fellowship was complete. The unity was of the purest and sublimest type. He talked with his Maker as with a friend. Yea, more: God directed his footsteps, controlled his thoughts, filling his soul with love and peace. His was a daily baptism of delight. In the same sense the true Christian to-day walks with God. Fellowship with the divine now is the same as in Enoch's day. Religion has always been the same and ever will be. No turning aside for three hundred years. While the influences about him were most likely unfavorable to such a life, he remained unmoved. His communion with the Lord grew sweeter and richer constantly as the years passed by, and as he evidently witnessed the increase of wickedness among his brethren. "He had this testimony that he pleased God." Backsliding was no part of his creed. His "heart was fixed." He meant to keep God with him on this side that he might forever be with God on the other side.

W. M. Weekley.

## NOVEMBER II.

President David D. DeLong, D. D., 1846. Rev. George W. Rose, 1852.

November 12.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER.

To acknowledge with the whole soul that the kingdom, power, and glory of all things belong to God is the state of humility that can not be led into temptations through the greatest of temporal or spiritual blessings. The beginning and end of the Lord's Prayer expresses an acknowledgment of God in such a way as to admit that all things belong to him; while in asking for daily bread, and for the spirit of forgiving and not to be led into temptation, is the acknowledgment of utter dependence. The whole prayer is therefore an acknowledgment of God's love, wisdom, and power, and our need of these, as well as our dependence upon him for them. Prayer is, therefore, the acknowledgment of God, and a desire to be better fitted for the higher blessings which are ever ready to be bestowed upon all.

J. R. Hoffer.

#### SAVED.

In reference to this life, this word has a thrilling import, a meaning inexpressible; but in reference to the life that is to come its significance is far-reaching and boundless for who can tell in all its meaning what it is to be saved forever and for evermore in the land that is without a shadow and without a tear? Who has ever weighed it in the scales and estimated its true weight—"exceeding and eternal weight of glory?" The soul that is here saved in the blood of Jesus approximates this weight of glory, receives a foretaste of it, for grace in the soul is glory begun. But the full measure of it—its completeness—will only be fully comprehended when "we see as we are seen, and know even also as we are known," "when the mist has cleared away." Who can now tell the rapture of that soul when it first reaches the land of bliss and repeats, "I am saved?" And all the company of earth's purified millions exclaim, "Saved! Thank God, we are saved!" Rapturous moment! Grand scene! Glorious rest! Here I am to abide always. This is my rest. These are my companions. Saved, saved!

B. F. Booth.

NOVEMBER 13.

NOVEMBER 14.

[22]

# HOW TO BE HAPPY.

Doing good is one among the chief sources of man's happiness. I once heard a man who had begun life poor and acquired a fortune say that there is no pleasure in having money; that all the pleasure is in making it, and in that there is real pleasure. He had not learned how much there is to be enjoyed in giving. To feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to visit the afflicted, are duties upon which not only the issues of the great day will depend, but duties, the proper discharge of which will bring much of heaven to us here. Nor must this be confined to the bestowment of temporal good. "Charity to the soul is the soul of charity." To lead a sinner to the fountain of living waters, to speak words of comfort and encouragement to the distressed penitent, to help the weak and disheartened over the rough places of life, brings enjoyment of the richest and purest kind. J. Dickson.

# SCHOOL AND HOME TRAINING.

The life of a pupil whose home and school training has largely proved a failure, makes prominent the possibilities of an available future. He thinks of the future by the past. The spell that binds him can be broken. Let the prevailing "I can" of his nature blend with the whisperings "I ought." The affectionate kiss of a mother incites many a lad to attainments hitherto given up in despair. A kind word, an encouraging look, a wise counsel, may open new places in the nature of the youth and lift him to unexpected acquirements of character. A wise governor takes mischief in its formative state. The pupil can be more easily controlled before he is bent on and set to misconduct. The course of a stream may be turned on the mountain summit. The wasp readily manages the spider in the egg. Lead the pupil to a voluntary and judicious occupancy of his time. A busy brain shuts out a thousand whims and mischievous devices which, like flies about a sugar-hogshead on the landing, beset an idle mind.

W. M. Beardshear.

NOVEMBER 15.

Rev. James W. Hott, D. D., 1844.

NOVEMBER 16.

## THE ONE WAY.

It is impossible for us to imagine a case which would have more perfectly developed the great truth that salvation is by grace than this one. The thief had no honor, wealth, nor righteousness to plead. He had no time to acquire either. If saved at all, it must be by grace. Was he a great sinner? Then Christ was a great Savior. He magnified his grace in saving him. There is but one way of salvation for sinners, and that way is exemplified in the salvation of the penitent thief. You who suppose you have some just distinction for wealth, position or wisdom, behold the only way of your salvation—the thief's. Your salvation can be accomplished in no way different from his.

William Davis.

#### THE CHILDREN.

Care for the children. The little boy of to-day will be the preacher, and teacher, and business-man of to-morrow. The little girl of to-day will be the tender minister of the home to-morrow. In a few days, the whole mass of men and women who stand in the current of toil and trade to-day will be in eternity, and the children you now pass indifferently by will stand in their places. He who speaks a kind word to the child of to-day puts a smile on the brow of to-morrow. He who directs the current of thought, affection, and pursuit of the child of to-day, makes the destiny of to-morrow. Care for the children. Your chance with them is now. The morning tells the character of the day. Spare the sun from the cloud. Little feet step swiftly, and these will soon have borne these little forms where you can not get your hands upon them.

J. W. Hott.

# NOVEMBER 17.

Bishop M. Wright, D. D., 1828.

NOVEMBER 18.

Rev. Isaac Bennehoff, 1841.

## HOME A REFUGE OF REST AND JOY.

What a place is that home where all things go smoothly and pleasantly on! How the weary husband turns from the perplexing scenes of outward life to the quiet, heaven-like place of rest and joy, his own dear, sweet home! As he plunges into this sacred retreat, how soon are all his cares lost in its consoling pleasures! How far above all earthly pleasures is that of the wife, who, after having snugly tucked away her children to their quiet rest and sleep, sits down to an evening's social chat with the partner of her toils, cares, and delights! With the children grown up it is all the same. Well may such hallowed surroundings as these be taken to typify heaven our final home! It beautifully foreshadows the beauty, loveliness, and desireableness of that better land.

B. F. Booth.

## VALUE OF CULTURE.

Some are in favor of educating the bright boys and neglecting the plodding ones. I say, educate them both. They both are equally in need of education. Do not repress, but foster, the aspirations of each after the good, the beautiful, and the true. Life is before all the young, and its problems must be solved. The solution will depend much upon the culture given. Wealth will perish. Culture is indestructible. Culture will be of value beyond the grave. To educate means to increase the capacities of man to act and to enjoy; means to awaken the whole man to a just realization of life and its mission. There is no condition in the life of men where cultured powers are not of very great value. No man can afford to neglect the culture of body, mind, and heart.

G. P. Macklin.

NOVEMBER 19.

NOVEMBER 20.

# ELEMENTS OF SUCCESS.

Remember, it does not require a start of extraordinary talent to become an extraordinary person. The fable of the hare and tortoise possesses more of the secret of the success of remarkable men than do the marvels of the Arabian Nights. Beware of an erroneous doctrine of circumstances. No wind is utterly unfavorable to a skillful sailor. The seed on the mountain side, in its upward search for light, stops not for the hinderance of the rock, but embraces it, and plants itself within the bosom of the everlasting hills. Whatever you do, be in earnest. Earnestness is the burning coals which give the ore its useful shapes and make the earth hum with its industries. An enthusiastic bee is more powerful and effective than a drowsy elephant. Be possessed of an intelligent earnestness. Fuss and feathers may give expression to a bantam hen, and that, too, a very small one of the kind. Season your enthusiasm with reason and weight it with judgment.

W. M. Beardshear.

## EXAMPLES OF HUMILITY.

"Whosoever shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven." We have some noble examples of humility recorded in the Bible - Elijah in the wilderness sitting under a junipertree, requesting that he might die because he was no better than his father; David, who was sought after by Saul as a lion seeketh his prey; Daniel in the king's court, interpreting his dream: John the Baptist, asserting that he was not the Christ but the "Voice of one crying in the wilderness;" Peter at the gate of the temple declaring that it was not by his own power or holiness that the lame man was healed, but gave to Jesus all the glory; and as Cornelius fell at his feet he told him to stand up, that he himself was a man. Paul and Barnabas, after Paul had healed the people who would do them homage, showed their humility by rending their clothes and beseeching them to give to God all the glory. Paul in his first Epistle to the Corinthians says that he is not worthy to be called an apostle, and to the Ephesians he says that he is less than the least of all saints, and to Timothy that he was the chief of sinners, saved by grace. But greatest of all is the example of humility in the life and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has a name given him which is above every name. J. R. Brown.

Julia a. Hahn. 1868

NOVEMBER 22.

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#### GOING HOME.

Oh, there is a beauty, a sublimity far beyond description in the Christian's going home! Though others may think our "sunshine without, clouds, our songs without sighs, our pleasures without pain," yet "the heart knoweth its own bitterness," and there be few of us who do not long, as a tired child, to go home. Life at best is a wearisome, wearisome way, where clouds gather and our sun is ofttimes hidden from us; but "there is no night there."

Maud (Mary A. Share).

## HONOR AND HAPPINESS.

Would you honor your Savior? Then keep his commandments. Would you be happy in his service? Consecrate your all to him. Would you die easy? Then live well. Would you be crowned with glory? Then seek the happiness of others. Your prayers may be good enough, and your sympathy and tears of human kind, but without the divine touch to fill the soul with compassion and move you out in deeds of consecration and devotion to the claims of the gospel, and the demands of the help-less, your life will be a blank, and of you it may be said,

That man may last, but never lives, Who much receives, but nothing gives: Creation's blot, creation's blank, Whom none can love, whom none can thank.

J. L. Luttrell.

NOVEMBER 23.

NOVEMBER 24.

## PARENTS AND THE MINISTRY.

Parents may do much in inspiring their sons toward the gospel ministry. Not long ago I heard a mother that has five sons in the ministry say to two young men in the presence of their parents, "Perhaps you will be ministers. No calling is higher or better." The fact of such mothers may be the explanation why many persons wake up to find that they have a call to the ministry. We want for the ministry men whose hearts God has prepared, of such character and diligence as to commend them to the church, who will do all in their power to fit themselves for their duties, and who will then devote themselves wholly to the ministry as their lifework.

A. W. Drury.

## THANKSGIVING DAY. ?

The mercies of the Lord have not failed, and his beneficent hands have been wide open. It is well that Thanksgiving day comes to turn our faces and our hearts to him whose compassions fail not, and whose mercies are new every morning. How many blessings he has thrown into the lap of our life. In all homes the bestowment is not the same. With some business has been more prosperous than with others. life and health have been sweeter than with others. Still, God is everywhere the ever-present Friend. From some of our homes members of our families have gone out to build up homes of their own. There is a son or a daughter less to cherish and love. From some of our homes Jesus has beckoned one or two to come up and be where he is. There is one less to caress, one less to love. But if we can not thank the Master for their removal, we can look through our blinding tears and say, "It was Father's voice that called them." We can bless his name for the life, and light, and love they threw into our homes and on our hearts while they were yet with us. In some homes there is a new joy; an angel face and form to smile on our pathway. In many homes the children have grown taller and manlier in manhood, and sweeter and fairer and nobler in womanhood. Let God be praised, J. W. Hott.

NOVEMBER 25.

S. El. J. Miller, 4863

NOVEMBER 26.

Rev. Isaiah Baltzell, 1832

Rhoda B. Kimmell. 1877.

# AN APPEAL FOR CHRISTIAN MISSIONS.

I am tempted to make one plea for this blessed cause. I plead for a quickened conscience. I plead for an enlarged moral vision. I plead for an increased liberality. I plead for a systematic beneficence. I plead for a personal and property consecration. I plead for a baptism of the Holy Spirit. In the name of the great Commander himself, in the name of our church-fathers who sleep in the dust, in the name of our noble missionaries in those far-off fields, in the name of the perishing millions whose inarticulate cry goes up to heaven, I plead. "Awake, O Zion." "Arise and shine," until every dark spot of the earth shall be filled with the glory of thy light, and thy brightness shall fill the earth as the waters cover the sea.

G. M. Mathews.

## CERTAINTIES IN RELIGION.

Man is immortal; he shall live in the eternity of God. If we "follow that which is good" here, we shall, when we go hence, enter a country where the leaves shall not wither and time will be measureless; where all shall be absolutely perfect, and "when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away." Blessed be God, there are some things now that we do not ask the question in regard to, "Who knows?" We know Christ—know him as our personal and all-sufficient Savior and Reedeemer. We will love and serve him. We will clasp his dear, precious hand, and he will lead us and teach us; and when these earth-shadows, and hills, and mountains of ignorance sink as we arise, and we pass into the everlasting city and are found "without fault before the throne of God," then the longing of our immortal nature will be satisfied. And I think the knowledge and grace gained here will fit us for greater blessedness there.

C. T. Stearn.

# NOVEMBER 27.

Rev. J. T. Vardaman, 1815. Rev. Thomas Evans, 1823. Rev. Jacob L. Grimm, 1842.

NOVEMBER 28.

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#### WINTER.

What a fine time is winter to cherish the principle of benevolence in the heart, and to carry out the principle into the workings of practical life! "Who can stand before his cold." Ah, what suffering there is, especially in our cities and larger towns, during the winter season! When we sit in our comfortable homes, around our plentiful tables, and muffle ourselves to walk a square, let us think of the many unfortunate ones who shiver with the cold, are pinched with hunger, and would be so thankful for what we could, without suffering, so conveniently spare. Be your own almoner. Don't be ashamed to be seen, basket in hand, pushing your way through "obscure lanes and alleys," hunting up the abodes of affliction and poverty. Take your children with you on these errands of mercy. It will be the best lesson you can give them in kindness to the poor, and they will be made much more thankful for their own comfortable homes and grateful to those who provide for them.

D. Berger.

## THE TESTIMONY OF LOVE.

The testimony of love is upon the loving heart. Back upon it strangely pour the blessings it confers upon others. Love does not stand around to be coaxed, or waited upon, or invited. It does not throw open its arms and hands to be filled. It ministers; it drinks others' sorrows; it lifts to its own shoulders the burden of others; it blesses all. Yet in doing this it does not parade its deeds, but hides them in love. It is an angel whose bright form can not be hidden. The flame of its burning lights too brightly a fellow-being's heart to be unnoticed. It tells just what we are; it reveals a great soul. The testimony of love exhibits a splendid character. It becomes a habit and a life. The man who is abused loves in return; he is slandered, yet makes allowances, and utters no unkind word in answer; his heart is wounded and bruised, but is not made sour or bitter; he is slighted and set aside, yet his soul is not narrowed; he is passed by unnoticed, and yet goes on with his labor of love. He asks no reward, for he has it in God and in his own heart; he seeks no crown, for he has it. He has heaven in his soul; and, giving it out all the time, it multiplies more and more. J. W. Hott.

NOVEMBER 29.

NOVEMBER 30.

Bishop Martin Boehm, 1725. Rev. Jonathan T. Hobson, 1850.

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#### CHRISTMAS.

O'er far Judea's quiet plain .

The angels sung at early morn,
And wondering shepherds heard with awe
The story of a Savior born.
Oh, wondrous, wondrous story,
Oh, sweet, pathetic story;
The Lord became a little child,
The Lord, the King of Glory.

"Glad tidings of great joy we bring,—
Peace to the earth, good-will to men;"
O radiant star of Bethlehem,
We bring our offerings again.
To-day, with songs before him,
With joyful songs before him,
The Wonderful, the Prince of Peace,
We praise and we adore him.

"Rejoice, O earth, the Lord is born,"—
No sweeter message ever fell
From angel lips,—the Lord is born!
O Christmas bells, ring out and tell
To all the world the story;
The old, old, wondrous story,
How Christ was once a little child,—
The Christ, the King of Glory.

Maud (Mary A. Share).

# DECEMBER.

## A CHRISTMAS GREETING.

Let the bells ring out the gladness,
Let the joy-bells banish sadness;
Ring with music clear,
Fill the land with cheer,
With loudest voice,
Bid men rejoice;
For on this happiest, gladdest, bright

For on this happiest, gladdest, brightest morn Our Christ the Sovereign Lord and King was born.

From the regions of the blest, In effulgent radiance drest, Down the distant star-lit way, In multitudinous array,

The shining throng,
With joyous song,—
Their robes of light
Dispelling night,—
On wing ethereal came,
With high and glad acclaim.

The Judean shepherds hear

Notes so strangely, sweetly clear,

Filling all the air,

Thrilling everywhere

Thrilling everywhere.
The notes proclaim
The wondrous Name—

The sweetest, holiest hame to mortals given.

The sweetest, holiest name to mortals given.

Such song before on earth Ne'er heralded such birth; For on that sacred morn The holy Child was born— The Mighty King, Whom angels sing,

Whom angels sing, And men revere With loving fear.

To him this day our highest songs we raise, To him this day we bring our richest praise.

Robin Merry (Rev. D. Berger, D.D.)

## CASTING ALL CARE ON THE LORD.

"Casting all your care upon Him." It requires vastly more than a simple belief in the truth of revealed religion to do this. "All your care." All that relates to our temporal and spiritual concerns. All that relates to time and eternity. The language of inspiration is this, "Trust in the Lord forever, for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength." That trust by which the soul is able to cast all care upon Jesus will bring it into perfect harmony with the will of God. But this casting all care upon Jesus can only be done by a full and complete consecration. Gospel faith implies and includes complete consecration. How can a soul cast that upon Jesus which it does not unreservedly consecrate to him? The language of trust is "all for Jesus, now and evermore." This is the faith that gives us the victory. No matter how dark the day may be, faith says, and will not take it back, "I have left it all with Jesus." If a man starts on a long journey it will save him a vast amount of trouble and anxiety to have his baggage checked through. Casting all our care upon Jesus is simply having our baggage checked through. Faith carries the check and I. Weaver. Iesus takes care of the baggage.

# AMERICAN SLAVERY - A PROPHECY.

For the last thirty years this nation, north and south, has, by its legislative action, been building bulwarks around this institution, extending, strengthening, perpetuating it, thereby fastening the galling chains of slavery more tightly upon its victims. Now what will the Judge of the earth think of and do with us when he comes to settle for this affair? According to the principles of eternal justice, upon which he has acted among the nations for more than five thousand years, will he not rise and mightily shake this nation, and in the execution of justice and wrath deliver America over to the tormentors, until she shall have paid or suffered dearly for her crimes? The candid observer can already see in the distance dark clouds skirting our political horizon, ominous of evil that may end in ruin. What means this Nebraska business, this hankering after Cuba, this encroachment upon Mexico? It seems that our government, smitten with judicial blindness, Pharaoh-like, is in haste to consummate its own ruin. May we not fear that the elements of discord and fires of destruction are already gathering strength in our midst? Then, as true Americans, as Christians, we should lay aside old prejudices, and pray and talk and vote in such a way that our government may be purged from sin and the shackles of the last slave knocked off.

DECEMBER I.

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DECEMBER 2.

## THE SUPREME DOCTRINE.

One distinctive feature of the Pauline philosophy is its Christian character. It bears in its "body" the marks of the Lord Jesus. Christ is the pivot-center of the whole system—"all and in all." No matter whether Paul spoke on "Mars' Hill to vain philosophers, or to astonished Jews in their synagogues, or to the Greeks in their schools of learning, or pleaded his own case in the royal court, he always erected the cross, around which he had every doctrine to move in beautiful harmony to the tune of

"All hail the power of Jesus' name, Let angels prostrate fall, Bring forth the royal diadem, And crown him Lord of all."

C. I. B. Brane.

## CONSOLATION.

Religion alone contains true consolation. It is the one balm for the sorrow-stricken heart. It is the oil of healing to the bruised spirit. It is the one sweet song of music for the ear of the mourner. It is the only star of hope for the lonely pilgrim whose comrades lie dead in the dust. Other things there may be to which the heart may be directed, but they are all but as the noise of dancing to the soft strains of heavenly music falling on hearts of deep anguish. There is something in the very thought of the existence of a blessed God to whom we are sweetly reconciled by the death of his Son that gives us consolation. If he is God he must be our Father, if he is our Father, tender, powerful, and loving, then we have strong consolation who have laid hold of the help set before us. We do not know, we can not see, we can not at first even feel that it is real, then faith takes hold of Father's hand. Our Father knows what is best. How full of consolation.

J. W. Hott.

DECEMBER 3.

DECEMBER 4.

## THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE LIFE.

The Christian has two lives, the earthly and the heavenly. He enjoys the one. He anticipates the other. The earthly has just enough of the bitter to increase in him a longing for the heavenly. Here he bears the cross. There he wears the crown. Here he enjoys life because he enjoys God. Here he is contented, though not fully satisfied. He hopes for a changed condition of things. He longs for a better, richer, sweeter life to come; and while he is comforted with the prospect, he is contented with the richest experiences and joys which are but foretastes of heaven.

G. M. Mathews.

#### DEATH.

There is no state or condition so enviable in the hour of death as that of the good man, who, in the hour of dissolution, can retire from the cares and turmoil of this life with a calmness and resignation only consequent on a course of virtue and obedience. All other considerations, however pleasing to the present state of existence, can not furnish an equivalent in the hour when nature shall struggle in death, and life hastens to be gone. Look to man in his most enviable condition, as it regards this life, and what do you see? Let the deep silver-mine pour out its richest treasures at his feet. Behold the sparkling diamonds shining like stars along his glittering walls. Look around him, and mark the wide landscape attired in the most enchanting scenery on which human gaze ever rested, and covered with flocks and herds. Count his numerous vessels as they sport on the billows of the mighty ocean, and then suppose you see the bony finger of Death pointing to a new-dug grave, to be the residence of the rich man, and ask, are the riches of the life to be compared with the riches that come from God?

W. R. Rhinehart.

DECEMBER 5.

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DECEMBER 6.

## A HAPPY HOME.

People talk, sing, and pray for happy homes. But all this avails nothing unless we also work for them. This work must not only be the external appliances, but much more must it aim to make every person belonging to that home happy, and even every one that comes there. Save your kindest words, most enduring patience, and dearest love for those of your own home. Rather aim to make happy than to be made so. Home, to be a happy one, must be a place of order and system which every person there tries to maintain. Many persons can not stay away from their homes, and yet when there they are exacting, unhelpful, and disorderly. But if you do all you can to make the rest of your household happy, yours is pretty sure to be a happy home.

J. R. Hoffer.

## THE CROSS OF CHRIST.

Uncover the cross, and let the whole race behold the friendship of the Lamb of God which taketh away the sins of the world. Does beholding innocence and purity without spot awaken a desire for virtue? Then let Jesus be presented to the view of the degraded world. See, there in that drunken brawl upon the street is the over-tempted husband of the affectionate wife. Her eyes have beheld the scene. Her tearful pleadings fall on his ear, but her voice is powerless to draw him away. Hear her exclaim, "Bring me our babe; bring me our babe. If he but feel the touch of its soft hands and look upon the innocence of its face he will come." Its little fingers are on his cheeks. Its innocence shines in his sight. His heart is subdued, and he turns from the drunken scene, conquered by the power of innocence. Oh, let the world see Jesus. It will turn from its dark scenes of blood and death and find purity and salvation.

J. W. Hott.

## DECEMBER 7.

Rev. Christian Henrich Gotlieb Fritz, 1832.

## DECEMBER 8.

Rev. Lindley H. Bufkin, 1842 Rev. Benj. G. Huber, 1846.

## FAMILY RELIGION.

I have known many parents who could not rest satisfied nor think their work done in their families until they witnessed the conversion of all their children. Some years ago when I was engaged in a revival, Judge C—, an eminent man of the Presbyterian Church, took a very active part in the work. His daughter was converted at the meeting, and when I inquired of him as to the spiritual state of his other children, he said at such and such a date this one and the other were converted, and he stated how that time after time he had, at their request, gone to their solitary chambers and labored with them in prayer, until now they were all saved. Of all this there was little said at the time, but he was a faithful and happy parent. I have known many families in which there was family worship, Christian teaching, and godly living, so that the strangers coming into the family as servants were very soon under conviction of sin, and most invariably converted. There are indeed comparatively few who will resist the saving influence of grace, if early and persistently applied in the family.

Z. A. Colestock.

## TRIUMPH OF CHRISTIANITY.

Many are the reasons to assure us of the final issue in this contest of the world's religions. Our religion will triumph because of its great truths and promises of good to all mankind. It shall triumph because it suits all conditions of the race. It enters the darkest haunts of vice, and offers a life of happiness and purity by following Christ. It visits the poor and abandoned, offering peace and plenty on earth, and treasure richer than palaces in the life to come. It finds the king on his throne, and offers instead of the crown and anxieties of the jeweled brow, a crown of immortality at the right hand of the Father. In our religion, royalty and poverty greet each other, and all mankind may become heirs of an eternal kingdom. Christianity will triumph because it satisfies the desires of the soul as no other religion has ever done. The ancients, prompted by this longing for the unknown, the infinite, gave themselves to the study of various philosophies - consulted oracles, omens, and signs. Some massed their armies and tried to conquer the world. Many to-day try to supply this need of the soul by hoarding wealth, taking "pledges of the poor," and the "sheaf from the hungry." Some seek pleasure, others honor and Yet these satisfy not, and from the soul goes out a cry to which nothing responds save God and his infinite love.

DECEMBER 9.

J 1939

DECEMBER 10.

President I. L. Kephart, D. D., 1832.

#### THE GOOD MAN.

A good man constantly exerts himself to promote the cause and glory of God in the world. It is this zeal which makes a man truly and nobly active for the benefit of his fellow-creatures. It is this which excites the most ardent endeavors for the advancement of truth in the world. There is liberality in a good man's heart which stimulates him to repeated exertions for the benefit of mankind. Nor will the difficulties in the way deter him. Labor, fatigue, opposition, and ridicule, misrepresentation, and disappointment will not cause him to recede nor retire from this benevolent employment. He will strive to promote order in the family, quietness in the neighborhood, love in the church, and peace in the state.

J. J. Glossbrenner

#### THE CHURCH AND HIGHER EDUCATION.

It is not education merely at which the church aims in its expenditure of so much labor and money, but sanctified education. True, for ages schools of learning were planted maintained almost solely by the Christian church. But the favored time has come when education, both common and higher, is being pushed right on by agencies more powerful than the single-handed exertions of the church. Through the combined endeavors of individuals. corporations, church, and state, learning is pursuing its rapid march, and increasing knowledge is clothing its possessors with power. But since it is the duty of the church of Christ to purify every stream of human power, and turn it into the channel of its own efforts, it hence becomes its imperative duty to exercise a molding and controlling influence in the great work of education. That knowledge be valuable, its power must be directed toward the overthrow of error and the establishing of truth. Education to be a blessing to the world must help to Christianize it. As said Bishop Edwards, "It is not to be sought as an end, but rather as a means to glorify God and bless mankind." To give to the higher education of the day the stamp of orthodox Christianity is a task devolving upon the church of no small moment.

L. Bookwalter, 1884.

DECEMBER 11.

DECEMBER 12.

Rev. Joseph Medgsger, 1833.

Oran Charles Iden 1905

## WOMAN'S INFLUENCE.

Among women who have assisted in maintaining the orthodox faith, or in winning new territory for Christianity, Flacilla, the wife of Theodosius the Great, and Clotilda, the wife of Clovis, may be mentioned. Another example is found in Theodolinda, the Lombard queen, who, according to the tradition, because of her faithfulness to the truth, was presented with the famous iron crown. We remember, also, the influence of Bertha and other Christian princesses in effecting the conversion of their royal husbands. Christianity has been indebted not a little to such alliances and such fidelity. Heathen wives, however, have generally overcome the influence of Christian husbands. Thus women, whose condition has been so immeasurably improved by Christianity, present numberless eminent examples of the ennobling power of the gospel, and of pure and tireless zeal in the furtherance of its mission.

· A. W. Drury

## THE COMMANDMENT OF LOVE.

This new commandment is binding, notwithstanding the differences of opinions. We will never all think alike while we remain on probation. How it will be with the good beyond the grave as to this is not known; but here we can not all see "eye to eye." It is not going far enough to give to every man the liberty of opinion. He must be loved in his opinion—not for it, but in it. If we are not wise enough to discriminate between a Christian brother and his opinion, then we must forget the opinion and love the brother. There is no alternative from this but the loss of our discipleship. This law holds none the less if a brother be faulty. You are no better, it may be; and being better, your proof and duty is in loving him. Christ loves us in our faults. "While we were yet sinners," tells the precious truth. "As I have loved you," means while they are yet faulty. It is evident we must love one another as we are, not as we ought to be. The only fault that can keep us from loving each other is the fault that is in ourself.

C. M. Hott.

#### DECEMBER 13.

Rev. James H. Dickson, 1832. Prof. J. N. Fries, A. M., 1850.

J. J. Tahru. 1055.

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DECEMBER 14.

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#### OUR BOYS.

How keep them at home? Not by mere force of authority. If you have no better way this will accomplish something, but it will not reach the desired end. As soon as they are able to break away from home authority they will do so, and plunge into the vices against which you cautioned them most earnestly. Make home attractive. These boyish natures have cravings of their own, and you must meet them, or the boys will. They need companionship, and you must supply it. Parents should keep their own hearts so thoroughly in sympathy with their children that they can adequately meet this want. A boy should have no more sympathetic or appreciative friend than his father. These boys also need other companions. Select them and invite them to your house. If not fit to come to your home they are not fit associates for your children.

H. A. Thompson.

#### THE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE.

While in many schools scarcely any attention is given to the heartculture of the student, to the formation of perfect character, in every truly Christian institution positive influences are continually at work which give to the mind a bent toward morality and piety. The spiritual improvement of the student is sought as his highest good. And further, only through its own agency can the church have educated talent. In order to command educated men, it must make educated men. No one questions the importance of securing for the church the labor of the most thoroughly developed minds. Certainly if men with "whole armor" are needed in any field of human endeavor, they are demanded in the world's great moral conflict. The men and women who in the various departments of Christian work, with hand, or pen, or mouth, are to-day most ably advocating and advancing our holy religion, have been trained in Christian halls of learning. Christian colleges are the citadels of truth. They are centers and sources of religious power. Their worth to the cause of religion is beyond computation. Blot out from the face of the earth every Christian college. Now, Christian, hope, if you can, for the gospel's onward march! L. Bookwalter.

### DECEMBER 15.

Rev. James G. Baldwin, 1824.

E. M. Mille Mill

DECEMBER 16.

Rev. Benjamin Hamp, 1821.

#### TEACHING CHILDREN TO GIVE.

Those children that are taught the duty of paying something to the support of the church, that cultivate an active interest in its work by constantly contributing to its needs, will make better men and women, more earnest workers in the church, and more generous supporters of all church-enterprises by such teaching. Surely the duty of "laying by in store" for the support of the church can not be too clearly taught. Every individual, in every department, old or young, rich or poor, should learn fully the lesson of the Christian obligation to sustain the church of God. Where can this be better taught outside the home than in the Sunday-school?

E. L. Shuey.

#### THE SUPREME DUTY.

The best means to accomplish the best end is the climax of human exertion. The environments of the flesh do not bind human destiny. Revelation and consciousness indicate a future existence for man. Revelation and reason determine this existence to be joyous or otherwise as the life here has been good or evil. No man can be accountable for being in this world, nor for his moral condition on entering it, but God will hold every one accountable for his condition on leaving it. Man's business here is to prepare to get away from earth in the best possible manner, with the highest possible attainments, having accomplished the most good possible for his fellow-men. All of this requires a life of activity. The pathway from this world to the next is one on which there falls a single light. Here we can not judge the future by the past, only the word of God gives knowledge of the way.

G. P. Hott.

DECEMBER 17.

DECEMBER 18.

Rev. D. Wenrich, 1825. President Simon B. Ervin, A. M., 1843.

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Re

#### A BAD EXAMPLE.

If a man uses tobacco in any form he is setting a bad example, which will be followed by others, especially the young. They will copy the ways of their seniors. If one be a minister, Sunday-school superintendent, or teacher, or other church-official, his position only increases his power of influence, and intensifies the evil and danger of a bad example. Thus the very ones who are the religious guides and teachers of the young may become ministers of evil by an evil example. Those whom they should, by precept and example, lead to a life of self-denial and purity, they have really, in many instances, turned aside to a life of self-indulgence and sensuality.

M. R. Drury,

#### WISE COUNSELS TO THE YOUNG.

Let not fashion, custom, or another's opinion bribe your conscience. Make everything a matter of conscience—your work, your associations, your studies, and your personal improvement. Enter no place or work where you willhave to leave your conscience at the door. A good conscience is a continual Christmas. The torture of a bad conscience is the hell of a living soul. Have respect for the conscience of others. Impugn no man's motives. Put as honest and consistent an interpretation on them as possible. It is the work of a narrow mind to question continually the motives of others. Obey God at all hazards. Make the very most of yourselves the material on hand will allow. Fill your minds with the best thoughts of living writers in the important branches of knowledge. Make life-long students of yourselves. Do not be unnerved by your mistakes. A good general rallies his forces in the midst of defeat.

W. M. Beardshear.

Susanna (Eramer) Bause 1857

DECEMBER 20.

Rev. A. Schwimley, 1842.

#### DIRECTIONS TO SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHERS.

You must understand your pupils. This can only be gained by personal contact with them. Visit them; talk with them and with their parents in their own homes; invite them to visit you; make tea parties for them; cultivate real love for them; speak to them; greet them with a smile wherever you meet them. It will cost you nothing, and you will be the richer for it. Show them real sympathy in their troubles, which to them are great. Speak to them personally and freely about their souls' interests, and as you value their souls and your own, let no fit opportunity pass unimproved. Time is short. Your life-work will soon be done. Cut a way straight to Jesus and their hearts.

R. Cowden.

#### FOLLOWING GOD'S PATTERN.

In the production of the costly tapestries, on a single square yard of which a whole year of skillful labor is expended, the workman does not see the face of his work. He sits behind the loom, so to speak, while the beautiful design, as it gradually takes form, is on the side opposite from him. So much of the best work of our lives must be bestowed while the results are hidden from us. But as the weaver of tapestries follows out with the most exact scrupulousness a pattern or drawing at his side, so there is given us a pattern by which to direct our work. In following it out we shall do well if we remember the instruction given to Moses, "See that thou make all things according to the pattern showed thee in the mount."

D. Berger.

Walter C. Jenwich. 1888. dle elbert 1 126. 1038.

DECEMBER 22.

#### THE TRUE ADORNING.

The salvation of souls is by no means dependent upon robes, regalia, or uniforms; or better perhaps to say that salvation requires none of these. Christ wore no regalia, no sacerdotal robes. Though John the Baptist, from his wilderness life or for other reasons, "had his raiment of camel'shair, and a leathern girdle about his loins," Jesus, the great teacher, appears to have been marked by no peculiarity of clothing. No ministerial follower of his, dressed entirely according to his principles, would from his attire be halted at the Girard gates, for, imitating him, they would present no professional garb, none to distinguish them from other gentlemen of cultivated taste; nor of course would they present anything flashy. The meek and quiet spirit, which assuredly ought to adorn every minister of Christ, will never lead its possessor to consort with dandies, or enter rivalries with the devotees of fashion. Far from it.

S. B. Allen.

#### PROHIBITION.

We preached against slavery, we prayed for deliverance from the curse; but not until we voted for it also did we see the beginning of the endand, thank God, also the end. The gospel teaches temperance. It also teaches, "Thou shalt not steal," "Thou shalt not commit adultery," "Thou shalt not murder," etc. Now, shall we not have a law that says men and women shall and must not steal or commit adultery or murder, or by having such laws in our statute-books do we thereby say that the gospel is not doing effective work? The liquor-traffic is doing more harm than all these other crimes put together, and we "modern reformers," socalled, want a law not to regulate this curse, but to prohibit it as we do other crimes. But we are pushing our way. We see glimmering light, and we will not be crowded back, call us what you may. For myself, for the last thirteen years I have voted nothing but prohibition. We are crowding on the way, with God on our side. One of our good bishops once said that "God and one man are a majority all the time." We are getting company. We will preach, pray, and vote for "God, home, and native land." I. R. Hutchison.

DECEMBER 23.

DECEMBER 24.

e ra Eldora Jelro 1245

#### CHRISTMAS.

Christmas upsets things in the staid home, and puts parents and children down together for a day. Things must come to rights, and the children want to bring in the joy. The day—may it bring a jubilee of love in all our homes. In our Christmas-joy let us not forget the glad tidings. The Sun that makes our day is he who was born at Bethlehem on the first Christmas-morning. The Fountain of our joy is he who lay in the lap of the virgin of Nazareth on the first Christmas-morning. The Peace which makes our life to flow in a song is he who was the infant over whom the angels sung on the first Christmas-morning. The Star which guides the weary pilgrimage of our life is that which beamed forth in Bethlehem of Judea on the first Christmas-morning. Then let us above all our thoughts remember Jesus. May he be born anew in all our hearts on this joyful morning.

J. W. Hott

#### CHRISTMAS-DAY MEMORIES.

How tender and sweet come the remembrances of those Christmasscenes when the family chain was unbroken, and when the future appeared so bright and desirable. All were there. Father, mother, brother, sister, all, all were in the circle. No sadness or bitterness in any heart. Smiles wreathed every face, peace reigned supreme—fitting emblems of Him who came to earth to bring "peace." There was a hearty cheer in all that was said and done; and the Spirit of Him who came to bring "good-will" to men was shown by all. But the scene changes. The circle once so complete is broken. Light the fires anew to-day for the memory of the dead. Try to do some good for the sake of the hand that nevermore will be held out to assist the needy. Let the old bitter and sad life sleep in its grave in peace, and seek an acquaintance to-day, and through all days, with the wonderful Son of man.

T. D. Adams.

#### DECEMBER 25.

Bishop J. Markwood, 1818. Rev. C. I. B. Brane, 1848.

Re 1822

DECEMBER 26.

#### SELF-DEFENSE AND SUBMISSION.

There have been periods in my life when I thought I ought to say all I knew, especially when it related to a question or matter of self-defense. But a new leaf, as the saying goes, has been turned over, and within the last few years I have learned that I should also in this be like unto my Master; namely, that I learn to hold my peace also when I am unjustly accused, and live in full assurance that he will vindicate me openly, so that the honor of my deliverance from the hands of my enemies be not unto me but unto him. And I hope it may not be regarded as a piece of fanaticism when I say that God has defended me wonderfully in my quiet submissions. I am also fully aware that in this doctrine of submission one may run into extremes, and hold his peace when he should speak. But now I feel willing to speak or to hold my peace, as the Lord may direct.

Jacob Erb, 1847.

#### THE PRESENCE OF GOD.

The good man can rejoice in the thought, "Thou God seest me," while he is seeking an entire conformity to the divine will. If he can not understand all his errors, he can pray, "Search me, O God, and know my heart." He is glad that God is present to search his heart. He would not shun the light, but he would come to the light that his heart and works may be made manifest. He says, if I am in an error, I want to know it and have it corrected. God looks at the heart, and does not regard ones words so much as the state of the heart and will. The good man can rejoice in this truth when friends suspect and enemies reproach him. He can put his hand upon his breast, look up and say, "My witness is in heaven." "Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee." How pleasing to the good man in the time of trouble. He remembers with a glad heart that God sees him, and is with him in all his afflictions, and knows just how long to continue the trial. He saw Joseph and Jeremiah in the dungeon. He saw Daniel in the lion's den, and the Hebrew children in the fire. Blessed be his holy name, "his eyes are upon all them that fear him."

L. Davis, 1854.

DECEMBER 27.

DECEMBER 28.

Rev. Samuel Bussard, 1829.

#### THE LAST WORDS OF OTTERBEIN.

Farewell. If any inquire after me, tell them I die in the faith I have preached. \* \* \* \* \* Amen, amen: it is finished \* \* \* Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation. Jesus, Jesus, —I die but thou livest, and soon I shall live with thee. The conflict is over and past. I begin to feel an unspeakable fullness of love and peace divine. Lay my head upon my pillow and be still.

"He taught us how to live, and, oh! too high,
A price of knowledge taught us how to die."

#### THE FLIGHT OF YEARS.

The year flies like the arrow in the air. It is a pointed arrow that pierces many a heart. But for all the wounds it stays not, nor turns aside. The year flits over our head like the swift-winged bird. It is a bird of fair plumage; but for all the flowers along the path it ceases not its flight nor slackens yet its speed. The year came as a sweet, fair angel visitor, one whose host it was our joy to be. To us the visit seems but half out, and yet our guest will off on the next train, and all our entreaties that the angel fair longer remain are disregarded. The departure is taken—taken once for all—forever. None may call back yesterday, or bid the years return. Who that is chastened with the thought of the flying years but longs to make those to come better than the past? Who takes no time to mourn the failures of the by-gone is unworthy the moments which are to come. He who feels the touch and pressure of eternity in the fleeting years must rise and gird upon him the strength of noble manhood.

J. W. Hott.

DECEMBER 29.

Niem shake to the

DECEMBER 30.

[25]

#### THE INFLUENCE OF JESUS.

Jesus differs from others by the beneficent power of his life over the subsequent history of mankind. On taking on himself humanity, and in sacrificing himself for humanity, he showed the worth of man and thus This changed the whole trend of laid a foundation for human rights. history. At the time of his coming, the personal worth and individuality of man were overlooked. Men fought, in the face of the highest cizilization known, with the wild beasts in the amphitheater, and the imperial purple waved in approval. To-day if men want to have a ring-fight of two common curs they must slink off in the dead of the night to some place of secret understanding, that they may evade the clutches of the law. Then the weak and imbecile fared largely like the wounded deer of the forest. Now asylums and poor-houses dot the civilized world. Then the rights of a slave were not those of a man. Now he is loosed from his shackels, exalted to the liberties of individual citizenship and given the advantages of the most advanced civilization. Woman, through his influence, has broken from the cloister and harem and risen to walk and live as an equal with her brother and husband. From him sprung the completest philanthropy, and the universal brotherhood of man, that Jehovah might "make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God." Sosomenes relates that when the holy family of Joseph and Mary reached the limit of their journey and approached the city of Heliopolis, in their flight into Egypt, a tree which grew before the gates of the city, and was regarded with great veneration as the seat of a God, bowed down its branches at the approach of the infant Christ. Likewise it is related that all the idols of the Egyptians fell with their faces to the earth. And travelers who have been in that country speak of pictures representing this scene in which the idols lay broken on every hand. Be these legends as they may, at the approach of Jesus through the centuries every object of stifled religious instinct and latent moral principle, which was the seat of a god, leaped into new life and veneration, and became the admiration and glory of the advancing civilizations, while upon every side the idols of bigotry, superstition, and ignorance fell into irreparable fragments.

W. M. Beardshear.

DECEMBER 31.

Rebecca (Cramer) Galloway 1857

#### HE WORKETH WITH US.

Though hard be the labor, and bitter the toil,
No harvest brings pleasure, unfruitful the soil:
Yet labor is sweet, though its only reward
The joy of the thought—with us worketh the Lord.

He shares all the bitter, he shares all the pain, And sharing transforms them to rapture again; While feeling our weakness, our weariness sore, He grants us the rest that endures evermore.

He worketh with us? Then no toil can be vain In which he engages, there surely is gain! The harvests most precious do oft ripen late, 'Tis his to give increase, 'tis ours still to wait.

He worketh with us! Oh, companionship sweet! That makes the fierce battle a peaceful retreat; That binds the wild forces of sin that affright; And girds with omnipotence us for the right.

E. S. Lorenz.

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#### FOR THE MASTER'S SAKE.

Would you labor for the Master
Till life's eventide grows dim?
All you do unto his children
You are doing unto him.
From his throne of power, supernal,
He will loving notice take
E'en of the cup of water
That is given for his sake.

Some who bear the cross of suffering,

Neath its weight are worn and weak,
Longing for the help and comfort

Of kind words which you can speak.
Weary ones are all around you;

Many hearts with sadness ache;
Strive to make their burdens lighter

For the blessed Master's sake.

Light the last hours of the dying
With God's words of life and love,
Telling of the many mansions
In the Beulah-land above.
Speak of resurrection brightness
That on death's night soon shall break;
Cheer those solemn final moments
For the risen Savior's sake.

Many walk in sin's broad highway,
Leading on to endless gloom,
And their footsteps swiftly hasten
Downward to eternal doom.
Go to them with prayer and weeping
And salvation's message take;
Plead with them to journey heavenward
For the dear Redeemer's sake.

When the rich reward is given
To each tried and faithful one,
Sweet will sound the Master's plaudit,
As he says, "My child, well done;"
And the voices of the angels
Joyful melodies will wake
At the memory of kindness
Shown on earth for Jesus' sa

Jennie Wilson.

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Containing
Selections from the writings of a large number of men and women active and useful in Christian Work

By Rev. Marion R. Drury, A. M.

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This book was found at a garage sale in the Noble County, Indiana.

It is dedicated to the memory of Bishop Philip William Otterbein who formed the United Brethren Church of Christ which became the forerunner of the Methodist Church. He lived 1726 to 1813, being born in Germany and died in Baltimore, MD, immigrating to the US as a missionary in 1852.

The book has a page for each day of the year where birthdays of families and friends can be entered. Also there are inspiring words and thoughts for each day. The original owner is unknown.

According to the preface of this book, it is intended as an autograph album and a place to record the birthdays of many of your friends and family. Many of the names are Noble County residents.

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